

**IN THIS
WEEK'S
GEM...**

**Garu Carnival
highlights
(See pages
6 and 7)**
**Round the bay
swim results
(See page 30)**

Bridgend & Porthcawl

GEM



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THURSDAY, AUGUST 26TH, 2010

EXAM SUCCESS AT ST CLARE'S!



LEFT:
New head, John
Aguilar joins
retiring head
Cath Barnard in
congratulating the
A-level pupils.
(See page 4).

**MORE A-LEVEL
RESULTS FROM
ACROSS THE
AREA ON PAGES
3, 4, 8, and 18.**

Porthcawl skate park is set to get the go-ahead

AFTER NINE months of delay, Porthcawl is set to get approval for its skateboard park at last.

Bridgend's development control committee was being recommended today, August 26, to grant planning permission for the development on land at Heol y Goedwig in the town.

The park is being built by Porthcawl Town

Council, which put up £40,000 itself, and managed to secure match funding from BCBC of a further £40,000.

Months of delay to the scheme, which was first submitted for approval last November, has been caused by issues to do with noise levels and highway safety.

Initially, the town council refused to accept this and after a further meeting involving officers from various departments, borough councillors and

by JAYNE ISAAC

was then requested which was carried out but as a result of this, the council's public protection department said it wanted an acoustic fence and bund placed around the proposed park.

The town council refused to accept this and after a further meeting involving officers from various departments, borough councillors and

town councillors, it was agreed to commission a second acoustic survey, which has found that the noise levels generated by the scheme will be acceptable.

Consequently, the demand for an acoustic fence and bund has been dropped.

Officers are now recommending that the scheme be approved, subject to conditions, which include the provision of a zig-zagged guard rail between the pavement at the head of the new path to the skateboard park and the highway.

This will prevent youngsters

(CONTINUED
ON PAGE 30)

Maesteg mother's community order for child neglect

A 29-year-old Maesteg woman has been sentenced to a community order and made subject to a two-year supervision order for neglecting her two children.

The woman, who cannot be named for legal reasons, admitted two charges of causing a young person to be neglected and one charge of theft before Bridgend Magistrates and was committed to the crown

**Report by
AJ SICLUNA**

court for sentence.

Judge Christopher Llewellyn Jones said the background indicated that in the main, she had been a caring parent.

"But for two weeks, you lapsed into a morass of drink and drugs and the children were very much abandoned."

"They survived, fortunately without any great pain."

Prosecutor David

Thomas said the woman

failed to pick up her children from school and the police were contacted.

Officers had to force

their way into the house, where they found her in

bed.

She said: "I had a skinful last night" and indicated she had drunk two bottles of spirits.

Mr Thomas said that one of the children

reported that she had been told to get out of the house, and neither had been given breakfast.

He added that one child said that for six months, their mother had been drunk every day and spent most of the time in bed with a man.

Mr Thomas said that she admitted neglecting the children, said she had also been injecting amphetamines and had attempted to get help from social services.

She also said she had been taking drugs since the age of 14.

The court heard the children were in the care of a relative.

Her counsel, Mike Hallett, said: "She could be a good mother who cared well for the children. She has been in custody for two weeks and is motivated to address her problems.

"She is not likely to have the children back immediately."

Call for action on Maesteg drinking

MAESTEG Town Council is to contact the legal department at BCBC to clarify the action they want taken to deal with excess drinking in the town.

The council has been concerned about problems with drinking at both Maesteg and Garth Welfare Parks and also in the town centre.

Councillors have asked for a designated places prohibition order, which would give police the power to stop people from drinking in public.

But a reply received from BCBC stated that it was their understanding the council wanted a "cumulative impact policy" to be adopted.

Coun Keith Edwards said that this was not right, because the council wanted a DPPO.

"We have never asked for a cumulative impact policy," he said. "The licensing officer should be made aware of what we are asking for."

Clerk Joan Fielding said that she had been in correspondence with BCBC since 2007 on this issue.

A further public meeting between residents living around Maesteg Park and police was due to take place this week in a bid to solve the problems being experienced with youngsters drinking underage, taking drugs and creating damage to the park.

Many residents no longer go in there.

JAYNE ISAAC

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Find out full details about the event online at...
www.visitthevale.com

Police suspect arson after Maesteg blaze

POLICE are appealing for information following a suspicious fire in Maesteg in the early hours of the morning of Wednesday, August 18.

Officers were called to a property on Caerau Road at 1.35am. As a result of the fire, more than 10 houses had to be evacuated. Fortunately, the property on fire was unoccupied.

Det Sgt Paul Mason of Bridgend CID said: "We

believe that someone forced entry to the empty three-storey terraced dwelling via the basement rear door, started the fire, and left.

"The fire has caused extensive damage to the property and to a large number of houses in the terrace, but fortunately nobody was inside and everyone was evacuated."

Anyone with information about this incident should contact DS Mason at Bridgend CID on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

JAYNE ISAAC

**THE COLUMN
YOU WRITE****Readers'
Letters**

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (in certain circumstances), protect a writer's identity, if requested. (Contact details at foot of page).

Resignation is bad news for Porthcawl

IMUST stress the major disappointment felt after the decision of David Richards to resign as chairman of the Porthcawl Jubilee Year committee, as reported in The GEM on August 12.

As leader of Porthcawl Council, I was very involved with Porthcawl Remembers in 2005, which marked 60 years after the end of World War Two. What a fantastic job David did as chairman of the organising committee.

Tobacco display ban is 'vital to protect our young'

IT is deeply worrying that the Coalition Government is reviewing the tobacco control legislation passed by the previous Government to ban shop displays of tobacco, and I want to support the stance of the Wales Tobacco Control Alliance in calling for these measures to be implemented.

We should all be concerned about the health effects of smoking on young people in Wales.

We know that the younger people start to smoke, the greater their risk of developing chronic illnesses, such as heart disease and cancer.

Placing tobacco out of sight and making it less visible and less desirable to young people will help to safeguard children from becoming addicted to cigarettes.

This is a move that is

He used his wealth of experience elsewhere to mastermind the event and it was an outstanding success – and I like to think that the council gave him all the support he required. There was no problem then with any "interference", only help.

We are very fortunate to have in our midst a man with the capabilities and know-how of David – he is someone who can deliver and should have been able to have formed his committee and met when the committee members wanted – and the event would, I know, have been something

of which Porthcawl would have been proud.

I was one who supported the right of the committee to be independent, simply liaising with the council so that we were aware of the progress.

I very much hope

that David will change his mind and take up the reins again, or at least play a minor part in any committee set-up.

Time is running out – there is much organising to be done. Coun Chris Smart, Porthcawl

Local dance group were 'fantastic!'

IREAD the item in last week's GEM about Bridgend College group 'TrueDynaMix' and decided to watch TV's 'Don't Stop Believing' on Sunday, August 15.

The group were among the final six in the semi-finals and I switched on my TV just in time!

They were the last group to perform and I was amazed at their talent – they were absolutely fantastic.

Porthcawl plans its festive tree festival

THIS year, All Saints Church in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Porthcawl is holding its first Christmas Tree Festival from December 8 to 10.

The festival will include a magnificent display of decorated Christmas trees and a variety of Christmas events will be put on by local schools and organisations.

The aim, while remembering the birth of the Lord, is to remind people that Christmas is a time of celebration and reflection. It will also be an opportunity for the Rotary Club of Porthcawl and All Saints Church to raise funds for local charities.

A Rotary spokesman

said: "The festival works by inviting organisations, businesses and schools to decorate the church by providing a Christmas tree, decorated to reflect the participant's interests, or a theme of their choice.

"In the interests of health and safety, only one set of lights may be used, and they are subject to inspection prior to connection.

"We would like to invite any local group to this year's event. The festival is at its planning stage and further information will be announced in due course, but it is intended to be a popular and busy social event."

For further information, contact Robert Snell by email at dawnandrobert@hotmail.com

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

TAX HELP FOR THE ELDERLY

MANY thanks for your past help; could I please advise 'older' GEM readers that the next tax surgery which offers them free help and advice with income tax queries, will be held at Pencoed Library on Tuesday, September 14.

For appointments, please telephone 0845 601 3321.

M Chamberlain
(Tax Help for Older People)

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals in their charge at Bridgend Rehoming Centre
(Telephone: 01656 725219)

BILLY IS NO LAP DOG!



Sensitive
Billy
needs a
very
patient
owner.

THIS WEEK: **Billy** is a 5 to 7-year-old crossbreed.

A Trust spokeswoman reports: Billy looks very cute and sweet, but he is definitely not a lap dog.

He is quite a complex little chap, worried, sensitive and reactive when being handled and around new people, but sparky and cheeky once he has built up his confidence.

He is also reactive around high value items such as his food and treats. He does mix with other dogs and is best suited as the only dog in the home.

"However, he would love to have some canine friends to walk with regularly to further develop his social skills."

Type of home needed:

He needs an experienced owner and an adult-only home.

His new owner will need to be prepared to visit him a number of times at the centre to get to know him and to work alongside our training and behaviour advisor on his behavioural issues.

Have your say about buses in Bridgend

BUS users in Bridgend county borough are invited to attend one of a number of 'bus surgeries' tomorrow (August 27).

They are jointly organised by Bus Users UK and Bridgend County Borough Council.

Senior staff from First Cymru, and from the council, will be there to take details of the public's concerns about the bus service.

The surgeries will be held at John Street bus stop, Porthcawl, from 10am until noon, and at Maesteg Bus Station, 2pm–4pm.

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20–23 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
26 Thur	08.14	9.2	20.29	9.6
27 Fri	08.43	9.3	21.01	9.5
28 Sat	09.12	9.4	21.27	9.3
29 Sun	09.40	9.1	22.00	9.1
30 Mon	10.09	8.8	22.28	8.8
31 Tues	10.42	8.6	23.03	8.5
01 Wed	11.21	8.1	23.47	8.0
02 Thur			12.16	7.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

LOCAL INFORMATION

MADELEINE MOON MP for Bridgend Constituency office • 47 Nolton Street, Bridgend. Telephone 01656 750002.

HUW IRRANCA-DAVIES MP for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 737777

JANICE GREGORY AM for Ogmore Constituency Office 01656 860034

CARWYN JONES AM for Bridgend Constituency office 01656 664320

BRIDGEND CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau, 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend 01656 654951

MAESTEG CAB Citizens' Advice Bureau 01656 734662 CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111 (Emergency number 999)

COASTGUARD 01792 366534

GAS (escapes and emergency) 0800 111999

ELECTRICITY (power cuts) 0800 0520400

WATER SUPPLY (emergency) 0800 0520130 HELPLINES

Alcohol and drugs:

DASH 01656 650686

SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families in need 01656 785435

SAMARITANS (emotional support) 01656 662333

MENTAL DISTRESS

(Mental Health Matters) 01656 767045

CHILDLINE 0800 1111

NSPCC 0800 050050

RSPCA 0300 123 0744

WOMEN'S AID 01656 766139

Bridgend Carers' Centre 01656 658479

Alzheimer's Society (Bridgend) 01656 651490

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Housing service

(General inquiries) 01656 643643;

HIGHWAYS (drains, blockages etc) 01656 643643 (outside normal working hours) 07831 143600

SOCIAL SERVICES

(general enquiries) 01656 642200

(outside normal working hours) 01443 204010

VOLUNTARY WORK Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) 01656 810400

Photo: PA/PA Wire/PA Wire

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SCHOOLS IN THE BOROUGH CELEBRATE EXAM SUCCESSES

PENCOED PUPILS' A-LEVEL EUPHORIA!

THE headteacher at Pencoed Comprehensive School, David George, in his first year as head, was pleased with his pupils' results.

He told The GEM: "We had a pass rate of 60 per cent for grades A to C, and our students have been mostly successful in finding places at university."

"The teachers have been working hard on the phone today to help anyone still looking."

He added that there had been a number of outstanding performances including: Scott Morgan (an A* and four As); Eleanor Francis (two A*s and two As); Richard Tanner (an A* and two As); Garazi Zubickarai (an A* and three As) and Amy Jones (three As).

Photos by MANDY THOMAS

(Available for purchase, telephone 07974 518347)

These and other pictures can be viewed on www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk



ABOVE: Becky Figg (two As and a B) and Cerys Humphries (an A, B, and C) were delighted with their results.



ABOVE: Matt Bowen, Hwyl Price and Rhys Jones were celebrating.



ABOVE: Leah Coles, Sophie Roderick and Sophie Evans were all happy with their results.



ABOVE: Abbie Jones and Becky Baker jump for joy!



ABOVE: Martin Ryall had two As and a B, and Karl Weston had two Bs and a D.



ABOVE: Simon and Jordan Law were pleased with their results.



Natalie Edwards had four As at AS level, and Eleanor Francis had two As and two A*s at A-level.



ABOVE: Liam Olds was pleased with three Bs. Richard Tanner was the star with three As and an A*.

MAESTEG NEWS/IN BRIEF

MAESTEG Town Council has given £500 for bulbs and plants to be placed in the new flower bed created at the bottom of Garn Road. Labour for the scheme has been provided by the Probation Service.

A MEETING of West Ward councillors is to be held to discuss the possibility of installing a gate across a right of way running between 34 and 35 Neath Road.

The path is being used by motorcycles and there are fears that a pedestrian will be hit. They also exit onto a blind bend. Residents have asked for a gate to slow the bikes down.

Maesteg Town Council asked BCBC to look into

this, but the county borough has stated that a gate would cost £1,000 and they have no money available.

BCBC has been invited to send an officer to the next meeting of Maesteg Town Council to discuss the possible refurbishment of the toilets at Maesteg Welfare Park.

The town council asked what opening hours the toilets are available, and were told that the ones in the main pavilion are only available when fixtures and training are taking place and the changing rooms are in use.

The toilets in the Bowls Pavilion are only open during the bowling season. Outside of that, the groundsman is on site from 2pm to dusk and occasionally at other times but if toilets need to be opened, other arrangements would be necessary.

Coun Keith Edwards said that if the town council was going to pay for toilets to be refurbished, it would need guarantees about opening hours.

BCBC has given Maesteg Town Council a price for resurfacing a length of the lane running alongside the Royal British Legion Club in Commercial Street as far as the steps in St Michael's Road.

BCBC stated that the work will cost £2,386. The land is owned by the borough council. It was agreed to refer this to West Ward members.

roads themselves.

Maesteg Town Council has asked its members to come back with a list of sites where these bins are needed so that they can decide how many, if any, they will purchase

THREE more names are to be added to the plaques on the David Lloyd Walkway in Caerau. These are Kerry Pulvirenti, for services to judo; Philip John for services to basketball and Caroline Marlow for services to the community in Caerau.

A PLAQUE bearing the Maesteg coat of arms is being taken to Essen in Germany by town mayor Phil John, during a visit he is making with the Maesteg Gleemen.

He is also taking a Welsh flag and says he would like to develop cultural links with the town.

Break ends on a high

B R I D G E N D County Borough Council last week organised a series of events for children "to ensure the holidays finished on a high".

A spokeswoman reported that Play 4 Life and the free community play schemes, supported by the borough's town and community councils, came together with 'discovery days' to celebrate the end of the summer, offering an exciting combination of sport, art and play.

Children were able to select from a variety of Olympic themed activities.

'Following The Flame' arts workshops saw them design and

construct Olympic torches based on the ideals of the Olympics.

"The colourful cre-

ations captured the excitement and drama of the competition with all of the children's work going towards the

'Following The Flame'

exhibition due to take

place in Bridgend Recreation Centre in the autumn of 2011 to spring 2012."

On August 20, the focus had turned to Newbridge Fields as special guests, the Ospreys, held an open training session with around 250 children.

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'BAD DRIVING' BY PARENTS OUTSIDE SCHOOL BLAMED

Garth Primary road scheme to cost £67,000?

THE cost of work to eliminate dangerous reversing by cars outside Garth Primary School has been put at between £26,000 and £67,000.

These are the figures included in a request from BCBC to Maesteg Town Council to consider contributing towards the cost of the scheme.

BCBC stated that it had looked at the hazards at this site as part of its road safety and traffic management role.

The work at Mission Road was on a list of schemes needing to be done but that would depend on the availability of funding.

Coun Steve Smith said he was astounded at the £44,000 difference between the lower and the upper estimates of the cost.

He said he could not understand why there was such a difference in the projected cost.

Man warned that drugs will kill him

Report by AJ ISACAC

A HEROIN addict has been warned at Cardiff Crown Court that he is likely to kill himself, unless he stops taking the drug.

Mark McLachlan, 25, of Pencoed, began taking drugs at the age of 14, and by 18 was hooked on heroin, said his counsel Stephen Jeary.

McLachlan pleaded guilty to possessing heroin with intent to supply, and possessing the drug, and was jailed for three years and three months.

Judge Patrick Curran

said: "Your involvement with drugs has ruined some of the best years of your life."

He was released on bail but on June 16, the police found him in the centre of Bridgend in possession of heroin.

If you continue to take heroin, it could end your life before you are very much older.

"Only one person can deal with this problem, and that's you."

Said Mr Jeary, "He is obviously a hopeless drug addict."

"One of these days, he will kill himself if he carries on like this."

He said he was well educated and left school with plenty of qualifications.

Youth theatre returns with a Disney show!

THE youth theatre, part of Bridgend County Borough Council's arts development unit, will tell the tale of Mulan, a young girl desperate to prevent her disabled, ageing father from having to fight in the army against the ferocious Huns.

Mulan steals herself away, disguised as a young man. The ancestors are aware of this and send disgraced dragon Mushu to force her to abandon her plan.

However, Mushu realises he could never change her mind and decides to help her during the perilous days ahead.

Xenia Yardley, the director said: "Mulan is a delight - bursting with fantastic songs, dances and surprises galore. Come and be part of the classic Chinese tale performed by Bridgend Youth Theatre juniors."

Originally due to take place at the Grand Pavilion in April, the Mulan production was postponed due to a fire, but with redecoration and repairs completed, the show has been rescheduled for September 1-3.

The group is looking for mums in Maesteg, Caerau and Brackla. Parents in partnership offers an OCN qualification in breastfeeding peer support.

For more information, contact Lu on 07859 176663.

Bridgend Tenchi Ryu Jujitsu club put on an energetic demonstration, which pulled in the crowds to watch.

Lu Rees, chair for parents in partnership, said: "We had a lot of support from local businesses to make the pirates and princess day possible."

"We would like to thank all our volunteers who made the day possible."

The group is looking for mums in Maesteg, Caerau and Brackla. Parents in partnership offers an OCN qualification in breastfeeding peer support.

Coun Barbara Stubbs judged the fancy dress competition for 0-2 years, 3-5 years and 6 and above. All the children made a fabulous effort with their fancy dress costumes.

Fun day for pirates, princesses (and parents!)

PARENTS in Partnership recently held a 'Pirates and Princesses' day at Heol y Goedwig Park, Porthcawl, where lots of parents and children enjoyed an afternoon filled with fun.

Parents in Partnership is a local voluntary organisation that provides breastfeeding support in communities.

The group has breastfeeding groups at: Porthcawl - The Annex, South Road, Porthcawl, Thursday, 10.30am-12.30pm; Pyle/Kenfig Hill Church Hall, Pyle, 1pm-3pm; Bridgend - Broadlands,

Med Lounge, Friday, 10am-12pm; Heol y Cwylodfa, Friday, 1pm-3pm; Bettws Life centre, Friday, 10.30am-12pm.

The children enjoyed a treasure hunt set out around the duck pond, bringing them back to the main grounds where they received their treasure.

Mums from the Broadlands breastfeeding group organised a nursery rhyme singalong with actions, which the babies enjoyed.

Coun Barbara Stubbs judged the fancy dress competition for 0-2 years, 3-5 years and 6 and above. All the children made a fabulous effort with their fancy dress costumes.

The group is looking for mums in Maesteg, Caerau and Brackla. Parents in partnership offers an OCN qualification in breastfeeding peer support.

For more information, contact Lu on 07859 176663.

100 PER CENT PASS RATE



THREE WITH CAUSE TO SMILE

Left to right: Aneela Khaliq, Rhodri Martin and Gayaneh Shahbazian celebrate their excellent results.

ST CLARE'S CELEBRATES A-LEVEL SUCCESSES

ST CLARE'S School in Porthcawl was celebrating last Thursday - after pupils scored a 100 per cent pass rate at A-level, with 60 per cent of grades at A or A*; while 40 per cent of candidates received a full complement of A/A* results and 80 per cent of grades were between A*-C.

In Spanish, all pupils attained grade A. History scored an impressive range of A*-Bs and mathematics boasted an 80 per cent A/A* result.

Three students took four A-levels this year and each of them achieved an impressive combination of A/A* grades and an A* in history.

Rhodri Martin will study medicine in Cardiff University after gaining three A grades in biology, physics, Spanish and an A* in chemistry.

Anneela Khaliq, who studied Spanish, geography, chemistry and biology, will go on to study medicine at Birmingham University.

Gayaneh Shahbazian, take his Master who studied Spanish, Yachtsman Certificate.

Omer Khan will go to Cardiff University to study zoology and modern languages at Manchester University after achieving an impressive three A grades and an A*.

Michael Stuttaford will study civil engineering in Cardiff after gaining two As and a B grade.

Chess champion Julia Malec gained three A grades at A-level and intends to go to Imperial College in London to study bio-medical sciences.

Alexandra Dunlop gained three As in biology, chemistry and Spanish and an A* in chemistry.

Other notable results: Christian Wallis goes to Brighton University to study architecture after gaining an A and two A*s but he will be deferring entry for a year to

Brett Davies will join Durham University to study business after gaining two As and a B grade.

Singer Charlotte Skidmore will join the Guildhall in London to study music after gaining an A and two Bs.

Timothy Heard will join Swansea University to study criminology after gaining two As and a C.

Alice Kinder will study fashion and textiles in Nottingham after achieving two As and a C.

Traffic lights at Crown Row

by JAYNE ISAAC

siderably increases the delay experienced. There are four separate phases of lights at the junction.

A reply from the highways department stated that although the four phases cause delays, it was safer not to allow traffic wishing to turn right at the junction to do so without having to do it against the flow of traffic.

They also pointed out that only one complaint has been received about the lights and there have been no personal injury accidents there.

Maesteg town councillors decided to note the reply.

members who are licensed to spray and he asked if they could undertake the work.

Coun Terry Mizen, who belongs to the group, said that they were already tackling areas of Japanese knotweed along the river banks and members felt that this was as much as they could deal with.

There was a need for more people to be trained and accredited to spread the load.

Coun Bill May observed that any areas tackled have to be sprayed for three years to be effective, and members agreed that a proper rolling programme needed to be set up.

It was agreed to do nothing this year, but to organise a proper campaign to tackle the weed from next year as part of a three year rolling programme.

Coun Bill May said that the Llynfi Valley Rivercare Group has

claimed that the traffic lights on the junction of Bridgend Road and Crown Row in Maesteg operate only on demand from the side streets; they do not operate on a cycle.

Maesteg Town Council had contacted BCBC to ask officers to reconsider the way that the lights at this junction are functioning, after receiving a complaint from a visitor who was held up at the lights both times he passed.

Members said that the lights operate, even when no traffic is waiting to exit onto the main road.

They have also com-

plained that the lights do not allow traffic to flow along the main road in both directions - just one way at a time which con-

Read us online at www.bridgend-today.co.uk or porthcawl-today.co.uk

Laleston man sheds 4 stone and runs for Diabetes UK

ANDREW OWEN (46) from Laleston, Bridgend, was on tablets to treat Type 2 diabetes and high blood pressure before he lost four stone in six months last year with a sensible diet and by exercising more.

Dropping from 15 stone to 11 stone, enabled him to stop medication for Type 2 diabetes (which happens when the body is not making enough insulin, or cannot use the insulin

it makes properly) and high blood pressure. Eighteen months later, he has maintained the weight loss.

Andrew is now preparing to make the most of his healthy lifestyle by running the Cardiff 10k in aid of Diabetes UK Cymru on Sunday, September 12.

He ran the 10k and the Cardiff Half Marathon for the charity last year, and says his new lifestyle has given him the energy to take on fitness challenges.

The marketing company director said: "I found

I was full of energy and able to go to the gym, swim and even run on the treadmill.

"Last year, I achieved something I would never have dreamt of in a million years – I completed a 10k race and then the Cardiff Half Marathon, raising money for Diabetes UK Cymru along the way."

Andrew, who has written a book about his experience, is taking on the 10k to raise money for the charity and to raise awareness about how living a healthier lifestyle can help dia-



ANDREW OWEN.

betes control.

He said: "I must admit that when I started the diet, it seemed like 'last chance saloon' for me.

"There's a long tradition of men in their 50s and early 60s dying as a result of the condition I had – and I really didn't want to be another statistic.

"I no longer take med-

ication for my blood pressure – which I have had to take for the last seven years – and I have no symptoms of diabetes either.

"It means that while I still eat carefully, I can enjoy a fish and chip supper whenever the fancy takes me.

"Whatever age you are, whatever condition you are in, you can always make positive difference with the right attitude.

"I've always loved my food, and there's no reason to stop enjoying it, but if it's a question of sensible diet and exercise, or risking my long-term health, there's no contest."

Registration for the Cardiff 10K costs £21, which includes a T-shirt, sponsorship forms and a training guide. Contact Diabetes UK Cymru on 029 2066 8276 or by emailing wales@diabetes.org.uk.

RUGBY PLAYER 'NOT GUILTY' AFTER RETRIAL

A PROFESSIONAL rugby league player has been cleared of allegations at Cardiff Crown Court that he attacked a man in the centre of Bridgend in August last year.

Curtis Cunningham, 23, of Cardiff had pleaded not guilty at the crown court in June to wounding James Trevelyn.

But the jury failed to agree and a retrial was ordered to take place last week.

However, a major witness failed to turn up for the trial and prosecutor Hywel Hughes said that in the circum-

stances, he wished to offer no evidence against Cunningham and a formal verdict of not guilty was recorded.

It had been alleged that Cunningham struck Mr Trevelyn a single blow, splitting his lip and causing an injury that needed 22 stitches.

Mr Trevelyn later had plastic surgery at Morriston Hospital.

Cunningham had denied the attack and said he was acting solely in self defence.

"I thought he was going to strike me, so I struck him once," said Cunningham.

AJ SICLUNA

Elvis event will raise funds for hospice

THE Seabank Hotel in Porthcawl is hosting an event with Elvis Presley's official photographer – with profits from the day going to Ty Hafan.

and only official photog-

rapher.

"Ed's work appears on most of Elvis's albums throughout the 1970s; in fact, he took 8,000 photos of Elvis between 1970 and his untimely death in 1977.

"He will show many photographs never seen before in Porthcawl. The profits from the event will be donated to Ty Hafan the Welsh children's hospice."

The day is divided into two parts: a free 'open day' from 10.30am-4pm

"There is going to be a guest appearance from Ed Bonja, Elvis's one

disco' evening with a 10 foot screen from 8pm-1am with tickets costing £8.

One of the highlights of the evening event will be Ed Bonja talking about his time with 'The King' and answering questions, and there will be a charity auction on behalf of Ty Hafan.

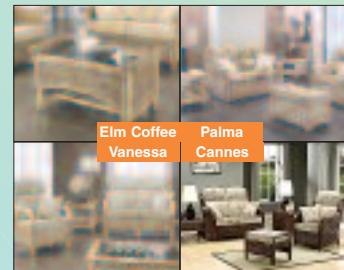
If anyone would like tickets for the event, contact the Seabank Hotel, or call Carol on 07785 10 78 14.

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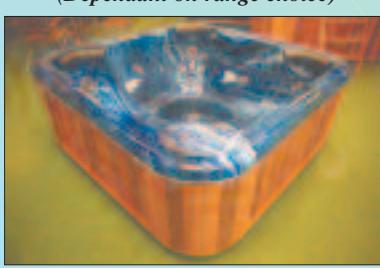


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OPEN BANK HOLIDAY



Who wants to build what and where in the county borough?

Ward Jones (Bridgend) Ltd, land at Horsefair Road Waterton Industrial Estate, Bridgend – new office block, change use of land for open storage and container rental storage and alter existing access road.

Mr M Farrant, 24, Verlands Way,

Pencoed – part change of use of retail premises to form living accommodation.

Vivard Limited, Waun Wen Bettws Road, – construct new road junction for private drive, site entrance off Bettws Road.

Mr David Simons, Bettws Football Club, Bettws – installation of floodlights at Bettws FC (north side).

Dovey Estates, land at Heronston Lane/Bypass Road, Bridgend – change of use to car sales depot and construct office building.

Mr Mohamed Shahzahan, 1A Coegnant Road, Maesteg – change the use from office/shop to Indian takeaway. RCT Regen and Planning Div, Ortho Clinic, Diagnostics, Felindre Meadows – new gym. Mrs CE Dagwell, Grenfell House Main Road, Blackmill – demolish existing store and construct new conservatory/sun lounge and replace windows. Mr L Parslow, Llangwyd Farm, Rogers Lane, Laleston – retention of existing eastern section of building and small amendment of site layout to consent P/04/258 E28668 N1815. Mrs A Stroud, land at 5 Sarn Hill, Sarn – new dwelling. Kenfig Hill RFC, Central Athletic Ground, Psigah Street, Kenfig Hill – two floodlights to rear of stadium. Bridgend County Borough Council, laneway at rear of Wesly St/Lloyd St, Caerau, Maesteg – installation of 2.4M high steel alley gates and fence panels to enclose rear lane. BCB, laneway R/O Caerau Road/Treharne Road, Caerau, Maesteg – installation of 2.4M high steel alley gates and fence panels to enclose rear lane. Mrs Helen Atwood, 8 Crossfield Avenue, Porthcawl – rear single storey extension. Mr A RICHARDS, Castell Farm, Llangynwyd, Maesteg – double storey side extension (south-west side). Mr WT Crole, 59 Oaklands Road, Bridgend – Dwarf wall upvc conservatory to rear of property. Mr D Hopkins, 53 Heol Llansantffraid, Sarn – single storey rear extension. Mr J Davies, land rear Nottage Mead, Nottage – retrospective application for previously constructed detached garage. Mike Poacher & Sons Ltd, Cornelly Garage, Heol Fach, North Cornelly – development of Class A1 (retail) unit and associated works, including alterations to fish and chip shop and access.

RT Bradford, Bryn Sarn, Sarn – conversion and alteration of garage/exercise/storage area to dwelling with new curtilage and access.

Mr CL Jackson, 2 Cedar Gardens, Porthcawl – regularise breach of planning of dormer style extension to rear of bungalow.

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WHAT RAIN? GARW ENJOYS A GREAT DAY AS CARNIVAL DEFIES WEATHER

TORRENTIAL downpours and local weather warnings did not stop the Garw Carnival procession from marching through the streets of Blaengarw on Saturday.

The truly miserable weather had no chance of spoiling a truly wonderful day, as the Garw Valley showed off its renowned community spirit.

The soggy parade had the theme of 'Bugs, Beasts and Birds' – and included such creations as giant frogs, caterpillars, butterflies, dragonflies, bats, gorillas, seahorses, and even Avatar banshees!

Stalls, displays and entertainment were moved inside, with Blaengarw Workmen's Hall and local clubs packed throughout the day.

The final of *Garw's Got Talent* proved to be the highlight of the afternoon, with Alexandair Gordon stunning the crowds with an incredible vocal performance and Owen Paul and Jamie Higgins winning the over-16 competition with a two man drumming display.

Live soul acts Leroy and The Commandments entertained the crowds into the night.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7)



PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:
e-mail glyn.evans01@tiscali.co.uk
telephone 01446 773225.
Visit our studio in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.



LEFT:
Butterflies fluttered despite the weather as the parade went ahead!



LEFT:
A pipe band led the way through the streets of Blaengarw.



Carnival day has become a fixture in the Garw Valley calendar – come rain or shine

(CONTINUED FROM
THE FACING PAGE)

Despite the weather, the event attracted an estimated 2,500 people throughout the day, a huge boost to local clubs and the area's economy.

The carnival group would like to thank everyone involved in the day, including: Bridgend County Borough Council and its Strategic Tourism Events Fund, Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations, Dave Nurse of Tranquility Video for the official video and website, Glyn Evans of Fotoimage, Lee Jukes and the Bridge FM team, South Wales Police, Blaengarw Rugby Club, the Blaengarw Hotel, The Top Club, Aber Cars, Timecentre members and volunteers, A&D Security Services, Max Holloway for her inspiration and every other group and supporter who helped the event in any way shape or form! SH

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event.

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e-mail glyn.evans01@tiscali.co.uk
telephone 01446 773225.
Visit our studio in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.



*RIGHT:
Wellies and an umbrella – unusual accessories for a carnival costume!*



*RIGHT:
Fly away ladybird, fly away home...*

*LEFT:
A carnival princess braves the rain.*



WINGING IN!



MEET MY NEW PAL!



Brynteg school's headteacher retires on an A-level high note



ABOVE (left to right): Hae-In Ra, who will be going to Imperial College to study medicine, Ruhena Noor, who is going to Cardiff University to study pharmacy, and Khushbu Patel, who will be studying dentistry in Leeds.



ABOVE:
Pleased with their AS levels were (left to right) Hannah Jones (two As and two Bs); Victoria Floyd-Ellis (three As and a B) and Bianca Whelan (three As and a D).

THE headteacher of Brynteg Comprehensive School, Dr Chris Davies, who is retiring this year, spoke to The GEM on A-levels day.

He said: "We are very pleased with this year's A-level results. Almost 30 per cent of more than 400 entries were graded

A* or A, and 78 per cent were grade C or above – and the pass rate was more than 98 per cent.

"Most of our students who were hoping to go to university appear to have obtained the grades they needed. We have given advice to those who have just missed out."

"Hae-In Ra got our best result with two A*

grades and two other grade As. She will be going to Imperial College to study medicine.

"Eight other students did exceptionally well gaining three As or better. They were Ajmin Ali, Carrie Eller, Byoung Min, Ruhena Noor, Khushbu Patel, Jonathan Slade, Liam Stephens, and Rachel Wells."

"Media coverage of the degree places shortage seems to have encouraged our students to work very hard to ensure they got the best grades they could achieve."

"Students achieved the new A* grade in nine different subject areas which reflects the quality of teaching and the support provided by our staff."

Also in Brynteg on A-level results day was the new headteacher, David Jenkins, who will take over in September.

Mr Jenkins has been headteacher of Ysgol Pentrehafof in Swansea for the last five years. He was able to be at Brynteg because his Swansea school, which has a roll of 955, caters for the 11-16 age group up to GCSE level.

He told The GEM: "I am looking forward to the challenge of taking over at Brynteg, and making a very good school a great one!"

BRIDGEND DEATH: man arrested

A 21-year-old taxi driver was arrested following an incident in which a 39-year-old man died in Bridgend on Saturday, August 21.

A police spokeswoman said that at about 1.40pm, a taxi driver was called to pick up a man and his female partner, at Sunnyside Road, Bridgend.

When the taxi driver arrived, the couple were involved in an altercation. Police believe the taxi driver attempted to placate the situation. The incident then developed, and the 39-year-old man fell to the floor and sustained a serious head injury.

"He was conveyed to the Princess of Wales Hospital and was admitted with life-threatening injuries. Sadly, he has now died," she added.

A police family liaison officer had been assigned to the victim's family.

Senior investigating officer DI Mark Lewis said: "We are appealing to anyone who witnessed this incident, or has any information, to contact us at the Bridgend major crime incident room on (01656) 306 103."

HM Coroner had been informed. The taxi driver was arrested and bailed pending further enquiries.



ABOVE: Labrador Club of Wales training to compete at Sherborne Castle.

COMMUNITY NEWS ST BRIDES MAJOR

Your local correspondent is Patricia Bevan-Morgan (01656) 880418

MIKE LARKIN of Ogmore by Sea does it again – but this time as a judge!

He travelled to Anglesey on August 9 to prepare the test for the international gundogs; August 10 for spaniels and on August 11, for retrievers.

He was judging the international competition for the retrievers on Wednesday with an English judge, Jim Swindelherst.

The placings for the competition were: First, England, second, Wales and third, Ireland.

This competition was televised on S4C on August 11.

During the training season, he will be judging for the Labrador Retriever Club of Wales, the Golden Retriever Club of Wales, and the Carmarthen Gun Dog Society.

EXCERPTS from 'Report from the Poor Law Union of Bridgend and Cowbridge Assistant Commissions (1892)' reveal some interesting facts.

In the parish of St Brides, there were 1,300 acres of Duchy land used mostly for grazing sheep.

The cottages in the village had the appearance of having been built on encroachments by labourers themselves, but scarcely any were owned by them, being of poor type and having no damp course.

The report states that: There is a scarcity of cottages, as 14 have gone down within recent years and only five reconstructed, partly due to the great Mormon exodus – largely composed of agricultural labourers who left the district for Salt Lake City around 1856.

Four labourers (sometimes six) were coming every morning from Bridgend to work on a farm at Southerndown and returning home in the evening.

Women on farms were the earliest to rise and latest to retire, their work was said to be hard and endless.

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YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL

1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ

TEL: 01656 725399

email: tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk



on Monday between 6pm-8pm.

The bowls club is providing this. For more information, contact John on 01656 646732.

Gala concert

ON Friday (August 27) at 7pm there will be a gala evening opera concert at Maesteg Town Hall.

The choir is helping Saint Cynefelyn church, Caerau, celebrate its centenary year and the harvest supper by singing at the church on Wednesday, September 29, at 7pm. Everyone, of course, is welcome.

The

choir

has

been invited to perform at the famous Treorchy Male Voice Choir's annual concert in the Parc and Dars Theatre, Treorchy, on Thursday, October 14, at 7.30pm.

The

children's

choir

will

begin rehearsals at Plasnewydd school, Maesteg, on Saturday, September 11. This is an opportunity for children aged between eight and 17, who live in the Bridgend county borough area and would like to be taught song and dance routines, to join the choir.

The

choir

is

available from Maesteg Town Hall on 01656 733269.

Wedding date

MEMBERS of Garw Valley male choir (Cor Meibion Cwm Garw) congratulate Mark Spruce and Victoria Painter on their forthcoming marriage at Bryngarw Manor on Saturday, September 4, where the choir will be leading the singing.

They were amazed at the reconstruction that had taken place in the area, with a brand new shopping complex taking pride of place.

The

main

basin

was

constructed as a terminus to link a ship canal from Sharpness in the Severn Estuary, and was opened on April 26, 1827.

Warehouses

were

also

built at the north end of the basin. Importing goods through Gloucester removed the need to tranship them from Bristol, where port charges were high.

While

some

members

enjoyed

the shopping complex, others visited the Gloucester waterways museum, which is housed in the original Llanthony Warehouse. They learnt the story of Britain's 2,000 miles of waterways, depicting life in the working docks and the ingenious engineering in their construction.

Other

members

visited

the Soldiers of Gloucestershire museum in the former custom house at Victoria dock.

After

lunch,

members

took

a guided boat tour along the canal for two hours. They would like to thank David and Helena Chown for having organised such an interesting trip.

The

U3A

was originally formed for older members of the community to share educational, creative and leisure activities. They meet at the Glamorgan Mission to the Deaf, Cochyd Road, two doors from the Masonic Hall.

The

next

meeting

is on September 20, when the speaker will be John Evans from Porthcawl, a former pilot who had flown John Lennon, and almost got involved with the Mafia. He will be discussing his book titled *Only Angels have Wings*.

Rita

(on 01656 656207)

will be happy to provide more information about the various activities.

Lawn bowls

THERE is an opportunity for readers of this column to learn all about lawn bowls at Aberkenfig Bowls Club, Welfare Hall, Heol Personly

Music will be provided by a group – keyboard player, two saxophonists and a violinist.

Telephone Stephen on 01656 720274 for more information.

The musical group enhances the

10.30am family Sunday services on the

second and fourth Sundays of the month at St Bride's Church, Llansantffraid and the first Sunday at St David's Church, Betws.

Welcome ceremony

On Sunday, August 29, at 10am, the Len Evans Centre, Aberkenfig, located in Heol Personly, will be the stage for a religious ceremony held to encourage members of the public who do not attend church.

Music will be provided by a group – keyboard player, two saxophonists and a violinist.

Telephone Stephen on 01656 720274 for more information.

The musical group enhances the

10.30am family Sunday services on the

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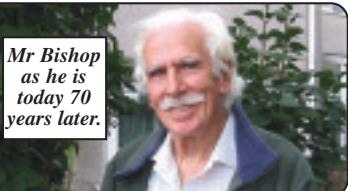
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At a time of war, the County School's class of 1940 is remembered by a Barry resident



THIS year, Barry Comprehensive celebrated 50 years on the Port Road which led one local man to cast his memory back even further to the school that pre-dated it, The County School for Boys.

Mr Noel Bishop (84) sent us this photograph of one of the classes from 1940 when it was located at the College Inn site.

Mr Bishop said: "I was 15 years old at the time and don't know of many of the pupils of that time that still live in the area."

"In 1940, and the years that followed, many men went into the forces or moved away, and some died young."

"I joined the Royal Navy, but apart from my service with it, have lived in Barry all my life."

"I know some of those in the photo have not made 2010, although I saw Stan Smith at a memorial service last year for VJ Day."

"I wonder whether any GEM readers have a better memory of 1940 to fill in any of the gaps?"

As a matter of historical interest, The County School for Boys was once co-educational.

Mr Bishop said: "My mother Lillian Chinn passed her scholarship there in 1901, and later went on to Cardiff University. She took a course, but in those days women were not allowed to get a degree!"

Mr Bishop is shown fifth from left in the middle row.

There are one or two question marks relating to some of the boys so if anyone has any other information about this photograph or about that period of time at The County School for Boys, please contact us at The Glamorgan GEM, Grag House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL or by email at gem@internet-today.co.uk.



ABOVE: The County School for Boys 1940 when the headmaster was Mr EC Griffiths.

BACK ROW: Brian Burge, Clem Jones, Richard Hall Williams, ? Rees, David Hughes, Ted Atkins, Ted Pearce, Pete Crowther, ?, Stan Smith, Keith Langdon.

MIDDLE ROW: Alan Mathews, Christo Vlismas, ? Redrup, Reginald Dennis Williams, Noel Bishop, Douglas Bennett, Sam Northway, Harry Brind, David Thomas, Raymond Henry Williams, Terrence O'Leary.

FRONT ROW: Gordon Pridham, John Fricker, David Hughes, Hugh Lewis, form master Glyn Rees, headmaster EC Griffiths, David Harberd, Geoff Vick, Fredrick Peter Williams, ? Smith, David Tremarn Lewis (sitting at front).

Howells school nine set for Oxbridge

HOWELL'S School A*.

Again the overall pass rate was 100 per cent; a total of 84 per cent at grade B or above, with 63 per cent being at A or A*.

All nine students with offers from Oxford or Cambridge were successful: 12 students achieved all A* and 44% of the students achieved at least one

impressive results, which are a real testament to the students and staff at Howell's.

"I am particularly pleased with the excellent percentage achieving the very highest marks needed for the A* grade."

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Clearance

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pocket
sprung
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3 door/
3 drawer
Robe
Free Delivery
& Assembly
Was £499

YOU PAY £349

RAUCH



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Free Delivery
& Assembly
Was £499

YOU PAY £369

RAUCH



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(7' 5")
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Robe
Free Delivery
& Assembly
Was £599

YOU PAY £399

RAUCH



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Vezelay
all mirror
sliding door
Wardrobe
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& Assembly
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YOU PAY £499

RAUCH



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sliding door
wardrobe
Free Delivery
& Assembly
Was £749

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RAUCH



1.8m wardrobe, + 2 bedside cabinets
+ 6 drawer chest – JOB LOT DEAL

YOU PAY £749

RAUCH



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+ 6 drawer chest – JOB LOT DEAL

YOU PAY £779

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4' 6" & 5'
Vibrance
Latex
4-drawer
Divan
Was £999 NOW £699

ONE ONLY TO CLEAR

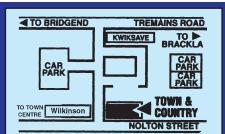


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Thursday 2nd September 12 noon - 7.00pm



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Get a university qualification at college!
Tuesday 7th September 4.00pm-7.00pm



At these sessions you can talk to course tutors and careers advisors to help choose the right course for you. You may also be able to sign up to a course on the same day.
Hurry – all courses are filled on a first come, first served basis.

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Porthcawl Chamber of Trade celebrate the first year of their
SAVE! SAVE! SAVE! **PORHCWL LOYALTY CARD**
www.porthcawlloyaltycard.co.uk

Porthcawl loyalty card celebrates its first anniversary

THE Mayor of Porthcawl, Rosemary Deere, launched the Porthcawl Loyalty Card on July 4, 2009.

One year on and the card has been a success, with shoppers making savings on purchases with independent businesses in Porthcawl and surrounding districts.

One local businessman explained the reason why the scheme had proved successful: "With the Porthcawl Loyalty Card we can offer discounts on leading designer brands not available from the chain stores in Cardiff."

It is now time to purchase replacement cards, still priced at £3 and valid for one year from purchase, to continue saving and supporting local businesses.

If you haven't yet purchased a card and enjoyed the benefits, it is now time to join the growing band of savvy shoppers...



Check out the participating businesses at www.porthcawlloyalty-card.co.uk or www.porthcawlchamberoftrade.co.uk/page16.htm. Look for the Loyalty Card Logo.

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ABOVE:
The Grand Pavilion remains the landmark building in Porthcawl, just around the corner from the main shopping street, John Street.

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PROTEST GROWS OVER STORE PLAN

1,100 sign anti-Tesco petition in Rhoose

A petition opposing the arrival of Tesco in Rhoose has swollen to more than 1,100 names.

The supermarket giant aims to build a Tesco Express store on the site of the old Mayflower public house.

The Vale's Assembly Member, Jane Hutt, said she had advised residents to present a petition they were gathering to the Vale Council.

The Vale AM said: "I have made my representations on behalf of the residents to the Vale Council and to Tesco.

"A strong point that has been made concerns the way this has happened. If it turns out that no planning permission is required, no consultation will take place to consider the impacts this development could have on local businesses, traffic, parking and the community.

"The 1,100 strong petition demonstrates the strength of feeling and should be taken into account."

Dr Ian Johnson's Plaid Cymru candidate in the next Assembly elections commented:

"It is quite clear that Rhoose residents feel very strongly about this issue and the impact that it will have upon village life, including threatening the future of the businesses in the centre of the village.

"This is not a ruling by the Vale Council, rather a principle that is set down in legislation. I am aware that in other cases there

munity in the Vale which doesn't have its own community council that can stand up for residents against developments which aren't in the interests of the village.

"With yet more houses on the drawing board at Rhoose Point, and no facilities other than housing there at present, it seems obvious that the eastern end of Rhoose offers a better business location than the Mayflower.

"In saying that, I would much prefer to see a well-stocked independent shop serving the needs of the community, than a major retailer trying to gobble up more of the market."

Tesco says the store will create between 20 and 30 jobs, and will be a convenient location for local people to walk or cycle to the store, rather than travel to an out-of-town foodstore.

Coun Jeff James, the Vale cabinet member for planning and transportation, explained: "The change of use of an A3 premises (public house) into an A1 premises (shop) does not require planning permission.

"The principle of use of a former public house as a shop, by Tesco or any other retailer - national or local - is not something that can be questioned.

"This is not a ruling by the Vale Council, rather a principle that is set down in legislation. I am aware that in other cases there



ABOVE: Jane Hutt AM with local residents Mr and Mrs Brown, and the petition of 1,100 signatures opposing the Tesco proposal.

has been local disquiet about large retailers taking over premises in the communities, but for the reason set out, this is not something in which the council, as local planning authority, can intervene."

He said: "We have of alterations to the liaised with Tesco and premises." advised that any works to the building itself (alter-

TIM CHAPMAN

Bassett Park: £400,000 windfall?

LABOUR councillors for the Court and Castleland wards on the Vale Council hope the Strategic Regeneration Board will invest £400,000 in improving Bassett Park off Holton Road, Barry.

ments."

Coun Chris Elmore is encouraging residents from across the area to make sure they look at the plans and let the council know their views.

"Local residents must be consulted about the park's redevelopment.

"It is important that everyone is catered for in the new park, young and old, so I really hope people do respond to the consultation that will take place in the autumn."

Fellow Castleland councillor Pamela Drake said that if work went ahead, she believed it would be take place quickly

A Welsh Assembly spokeswoman said that the regeneration board would meet in October, and nothing could be confirmed until then.

CALLER STOLE WOMAN'S PURSE

PENARTH police are investigating a burglary at a house in Glebe Street at 6pm on Tuesday, August 17.

A spokesman stated that a man purporting to be delivering food to the elderly, called at the home of an 89-year-old woman, pushed past her and stole her purse.

He is described as middle aged, with scruffy medium length hair, about 5ft 10ins tall, with a local accent. He was carrying a dark green coloured carrier bag.

Anyone with information should contact South Wales Police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

TIM CHAPMAN

Out and About with The GEM

New FREE Cinema By The Sea...

The Barn is a small cinema with a difference, showing FREE popular films...



Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang
Mamma Mia • Hurt Locker
Narnia - The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe • Tom & Jerry
Analyze This • Julie & Julia
Slumdog Millionaire • Precious
Hannah Montana • Toy Story 1 and 2

Enjoy watching a film whilst relaxing with a glass of wine with friends or family, as if in your own home.

A new tourism initiative launch for August.

Check out the website for films, times and dates.

Then call 01656 880465

to reserve your place.

"The Barn"

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DAY GROUPS

WEDNESDAY

MONDAY

Barry - 4.30 & 6.30pm

Brynsion Hall, Junction of Court Road & Llanover Street
Lorraine 01446 407002

Penarth - 6.30pm

Elfed Avenue Methodist Church, Elfed Road

Niki 01446 740394

Rhoose - 6.30pm

Celtic Way Community Centre, Celtic Way

Helen 01446 750738

TUESDAY

Barry - 5.45pm

Market Street Social Club, Upstairs Function Room

Joanne 01446 404897

Barry - 4.30pm

St. Davids Methodist Church Hall, Winston Road

Annamarie 01446 736534

Llanwit Major - 4.45 & 6.45pm

Old School, Wine Street
Helen 01446 750738

Sully - 6.30pm

The Old School, South Road
Niki 01446 740394

WEDNESDAY

Barry - 4.45 & 6.45pm

St.Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road, Port-y-Castell
Annamarie 01446 736534

Barry - 6.00pm

Cadoxton Methodist Church, Church Road

Joanne 01446 404897

Cowbridge - 6.00pm

Duke of Wellington, High Street
Lina 01656 890708

Penarth - 5.00 & 7.00pm

All Saints Church Hall, Victoria Square
Linda 01446 761150

TUESDAY

Barry - 5.45pm

Market Street Social Club, Upstairs Function Room

Joanne 01446 404897

THURSDAY

Barry - 6.00pm

Highlight Park Comm. Centre, Barry

Annamarie 01446 736534

Dinas Powys - 6.30pm

The Cabin, by swimming pool, Hebron Hall

Alison 01443 486220

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WHAT'S ON IN AND AROUND THE AREA

Brackla fun day

BRACKLA Residents Association holds its annual sports fun day and barbecue event on Tuesday, August 31 in Brackla Meadows from 11am-4pm (on the fields of Clos-y-Wern).

Heroes

display at

St Donat's

AN acclaimed 'Heroes' exhibition by artist Patricia Mears is at St

Donat's Art Centre in September. Marching on from a very successful exhibition in Brecon, 'Heroes' will be at the arts centre for the whole month.

The exhibition includes paintings based on photographs taken by her sons, their friends and fellow soldiers, together with work inspired by images in the press and on TV.

She explained: "The exhibition is for all our brave service men and women of all ranks, whether in service on land, sea or in the air.

"Everyone is special and inter-dependent; they all do their duty for our country.

"Those injured need our extra love and support; they have given so much for our country.

"The opportunity to

develop and exhibit the 'Heroes' exhibition seemed a way that as a soldier's mum, I could give my support to.

"The originals are not for sale at present as I plan to tour with the exhibition during the next year.

"I hope to sell prints and cards. All the proceeds will be donated to the Help for Heroes Charity."

Stirling Road, Barry. From 3.30pm-5pm at the Town Hall (Robing Cowbridge, Call 01446 403814 to make an appointment.

Childbirth

Trust sale

A CHARITY 'nearly new sale' will be held at Port Road West, on September 11, from 11am-12.30pm.

Entrance is a donation of £1 per family. There will be baby/children's clothes, toys, equipment (eg. prams) and maternity wear.

Sellers should contact Julie on 01656 662564 to pre-register; or email neatnewsales@live.co.uk.

Donations, cakes and raffle prizes will be gratefully received.

Proceeds are in aid of The National Childbirth Trust Vale and Valleys branch (formerly Bridgend, Cowbridge and Llanwit Major branch).

It is raising funds to train three breastfeeding counsellors and two antenatal teachers.

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The international antiques fair of Wales

BUILTH WELLS

ROYAL SHOWGROUND LD2 3SY

Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th September
10am-5pm. Admission £5. Early entry Sat 8.30am £10

UK & Overseas Exhibitors in 2 huge stand fitted halls and balconies, 8 massive drive in halls, plus the huge outside marquees, etc.

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1) HIGHLIGHT PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE, BARRY, (behind Tesco's), every THURSDAY, starting SEPTEMBER 9th between 8 & 9pm (Intermediate 9-10pm)

2) LOWER PENARTH COMMUNITY CENTRE, Brockhill Way, (opp Spar), PENARTH every MONDAY, starting SEPTEMBER 6th, between 8 & 9pm (Intermediate 9-10pm)

Former pupils very welcome

- beginners or improvers

Just come along and bring your friends!!

Only £5.00 - Students £4.00

www.salsachacha.com

Tel 02920 758708 or 07866 551346

Great fun and exercise, lose weight, get fit!

Margam Country Park

Animal Magic Day

Pop along this August Bank Holiday Monday

FEATURING

- ▲ Meet the Mountain Gorillas
- ▲ Fantastic Polar Bear
- ▲ The Welsh Dog Whisperer
- ▲ Geraint the Snake Man
- ▲ Animal Storytime with Cat Weatherill
- ▲ Childrens Entertainment
- ▲ Face Painting
- ▲ Craft & Gift Fair in the Castle

Adults £5.00 Children/OAP £4.00
Family 2 + 3 £17.00 Children under 3 free

Out and About with The GEM

Berwyn hosts photography exhibition



Photograph of Porthcawl Harbour by Tim Wood.

A LOCAL man is staging a photography exhibition at the Berwyn Centre in Nantymoel, on Mondays to Fridays, September 6-24.

The exhibition depicts amateur photographer Tim Wood's love for coastal and countryside scenes from areas including Porthcawl, Southerndown, Ogmore-Sea and the Brecon Beacons.

Admission is free of charge and photographs will also be for sale. For further details, telephone (01656) 840439, email: Berwyn.centre@bridgend.gov.uk or visit www.bridgend.gov.uk/berwyn.

My Phoenix Life – a social life for the over-40s

BEING single and over-40 or over-50 can be a lonely experience. Dance classes, walking clubs and a night club choice that's essentially restricted to 70s discos do not a vibrant social life make!

To make matters worse, other singletons are relatively few and far between, with nowhere to go to meet people in the same situation.

Join My Phoenix Life, a new social events and activities club for the single over-40s.

It is a network for mature singletons for friendship (and maybe more).

They promise to cater to all interests, offering a complete 'social life' with events and activities organised nearly every day of the month.

All events are hosted and varied, whether you fancy the weekly dinner club, a visit to the races, or the casino, a film and meal or a bout of white-water rafting!

As well as organising events, they offer a dedicated online social network.

It is a good alternative to online dating sites, offering a comfortable environment in which people can meet likeminded souls, avoiding social awkwardness of that first date.

Membership costs £14.99 a month, with a one-off joining fee that's currently priced at the special introductory rate of £25.

Village show at parish hall

Dinas Powys Village Show is being held in the attractive Parish and Lee Halls, in Britway Road, Dinas Powys at 1.45pm on September 4.

Attractions include music from the DP Ecumenical Seven; free balloon modelling and face-painting; a small bouncy castle (weather permitting); two Punch and Judy shows and, not to forget, the popular Scarecrows.

All this, plus the always popular teas from the Women's Institute in

the Lee Hall! Entry to the show is 50p for adults and 20p for children.

DINAS FESTIVAL

DINAS POWYS football festival takes place on August 30 (Bank holiday Monday) in Bryn-y-Don Playing Fields at 9.30am.

Fete starts at 12 midday with side shows, challenges and bouncy castles. Private stalls welcome. Contact Jan Cunningham (07881 692007) for details.

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- Attend as many or as few events as you like!
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& 6.00 - 9.00pm

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Live Music all weekend

Fri 27th August CAL NEWMAN

Sat 28th August THE BELOOSHIE

BLUES

THE FUGITIVES

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September 1pm - please phone for details

Sun 29th August

THE BELOOSHIE

BLUES

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Courses 1 2 3

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Child £5.25 £7.25 £9.25

TUESDAY – STEAK NIGHT

Choice of 4 top quality steaks only £10

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12 noon - 4pm
(Booking Advisable)

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Little and Young Diners
All main meals £3.75/£5.25
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Saturday 28th August

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9pm Plus BINGO

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Exquisite Vocalist 9pm

Bank Holiday Monday 5pm

Mr & Mrs Fun Competition

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FOOD SERVED

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Traditional Sunday Lunch served 12-3pm from only £6.95

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LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEW TERM AT ST RICHARD GWYN

Bike prize eases pupil's journey to school!

THE St Richard Gwyn pupils are drawn from a wide area, including Penarth, Barry and Llantwit Major.

The journey to school will be much easier for one pupil in September, as she has a brand new bike, complete with all the necessary safety equipment.

This was the second prize in the annual awards for good behaviour and academic achievement at the school.

Top prize was also a healthy option – a wi fit with all the sports extras. Both were won by year-8 girls who just beat the boys to get the top scores for their effort, behaviour and achievements, including good citizenship and sporting success.

Nuns on the run?

No-one would be really surprised to see sisters from the local convent visiting St Richard Gwyn High school, but they might have been taken aback to see this particular set of nuns – more usually seen ‘out of habit’ in the classroom or corridors of the school.

Twenty of the female



ABOVE: Sister Act brought smiles to faces.

staff, including the head of RE and school chaplain, took the veil to give the school musical night a different take on prayer as they sang a medley from Sister Act.

They were then asked to reprise the turn at the school's end of term awards assembly and sent pupils off for the summer with a smile, as they recognised the various members of staff in the lively line-up!

Wife with attitude

The guides at Cosmeston really encourage visitors to take part in the reconstructions and if that means being a bossy wife, well they're up for it – or at least some of the pupils from St

Richard Gwyn were, when they visited at the end of term.

Angharad, the ex-nun, soon had them in the guises of farmers, bakers, stewards and wives as they learnt how a medieval court would have taken evidence and punished the guilty.

All part of the fun that is learning at the medieval village. It was a fitting end to the fun that is history at SRG where head of department Mr Matthew Bryon has been known to take the part of many historical figures – even Rasputin – in his lively lessons.

Sports day success

Every house at St



Head of Science, Ian Smith, cheering his form member on as she receives her prize from teacher David Short.

Richard Gwyn High school has its own banner for sports day and competition is very fierce.

Whitland house may not have won the overall cup, but they certainly had the most professional banner and showed great resourcefulness in persuading a parent to donate the giant sign.

The day was fine and so was the sportsmanship, with traditional races and events combined with unusual entries like the netball relay and semaphore sprint, so that every

pupil had a role.

This year's 'heroes' were much in evidence. The boys who won the Welsh basketball championship before they left year-9 to start their GCSE course were still lapping up the applause, but so were lone heroes who finished their long distance race or threw their personal best in the javelin.

All in all, sports day sums up the school's motto 'Optimum Tantum' – simply the best you can do.

Farewell

Christine Morrish

was deputy head teacher of St Richard Gwyn Catholic High school, but said farewell in July, after 35 years in Catholic education (in three of the diocesan high schools.)

With a successful career teaching Latin, English and classics – as well as a strong leadership role as head of English and deputy head, Christine was also involved in the liturgical life of school; her guitar support being very welcome during collective worship whether Mass or Advent and Lenten services.



Christine is pictured here with the cake made for her by the school's catering manager which shows the badges of the three schools – apart from SRG and Bishop Hannan, Christine also taught at Cardinal Newman in Rhylfelin.

To mark her early retirement, the governors at St Richard Gwyn asked Canon Peter Collins, chair of the Diocesan Schools Commission, to celebrate Mass for Christine and her family.

Past staff, governors and current colleagues gathered to join in the celebration.

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(chaplain)
St Richard Gwyn)

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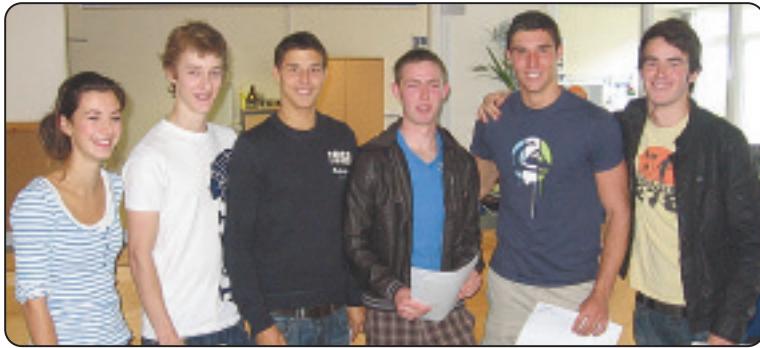
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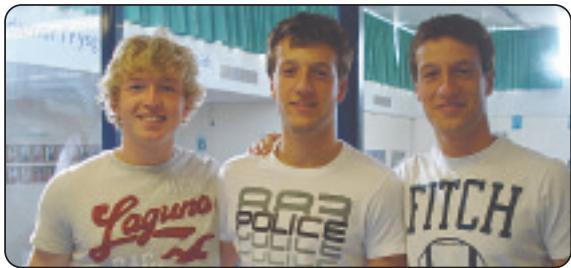
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These A-level students at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg clearly had plenty to smile about, after opening the dreaded envelopes on Thursday.

23 A-stars at Vale's Welsh medium comprehensive!



FOR the first time ever, three pupils from Welsh medium comprehensive Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, Mollie Arbuthnot, Mathew Metcalf and Ruth Pilcher will continue with their studies at Oxbridge.

Five others will venture into the world of medicine, optometry and pharmacology, having all achieved their predicted grades of A and A* in this summer's A-level results.

Twenty-three A* grades were awarded to Bro Morgannwg pupils in a wide range of subjects, including six A* grades for pupils who studied English literature in the A-level results published last Thursday.

Pupils and staff celebrated the advent of the new A* grades as the school recorded its best-ever A-level results, smashing all attainment records of previous

years. Ninety-nine per cent of the cohort recorded A* to C grades in two or more subjects, an increase of 8 per cent on the 2009 results, and 13 pupils achieved A or A* grades in three or more subjects.

We are delighted that all pupils have excelled in their own particular fields, in both the vocational and more traditional subjects and the introduction of the Advanced Welsh Baccalaureate has proved to be a resounding success with all pupils in our largest cohort ever achieving the qualification.

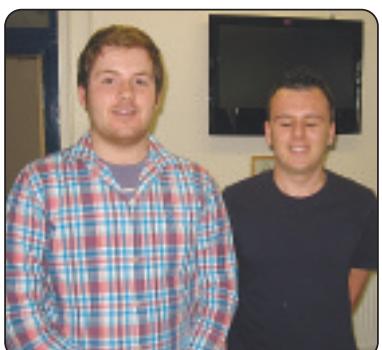
We are extremely proud of the achievements of all our pupils and these results are an excellent kick start to our tenth anniversary celebrations in September.

Congratulations to all our dedicated staff and we wish the pupils every success in the future.

MEINIR THOMAS



See pages 26-29 for more pictures and results from the Vale Show



Keeping in touch

FORMER staff of Barry College have set up an association to help colleagues stay in touch after they leave. It has been formed by past staff members Mike Bolas, Harvey Scarratt, Mike Wilkins, Gerry Reed and Ken Trevithick as part of the college's 50th birthday celebrations.

For more information, e-mail: info@barryfsa.com

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE Licensing Act 2003

To whom it may concern, I Sean Murphy do hereby give notice that I have applied to the licensing authority Vale of Glamorgan Council for the grant of a premises license at 31 Cowbridge High Street, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan, CF71 7AE known as The Knife and Fork Delicatessen. The application is for the sale of alcohol from 08:00 to 20:00 Monday to Saturday. Any person wishing to make representation to this application may do so in writing to the Licensing department, Vale of Glamorgan Council Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU, not later than 28 days after the date of this notice. Representations received after this date will not be considered. A copy of the application can be viewed at the civic office during normal office hours. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application. The maximum fine on summary conviction being £5000.

Date: 17/08/2010

RHOOSE GUIDES SHOW SUPPORT IN RACE FOR LIFE



ABOVE and RIGHT: Rhoose Girl Guides show their support for the Race for Life.

Rhoose Girl Guides and their leaders rose early one Sunday morning and, armed with their umbrellas and raincoats, headed off to Bute Park, Cardiff, to support the women who were running in Race for Life.

The Guides handed out 'goody bags' at the finish line and congratulated the runners on their hard work.

END OF YEAR GET-TOGETHER
The Rhoose Rainbow, Brownies and Guide units gathered together for an end of year celebration in



Fontygary Leisure Park and with nearly full attendance from every unit, the night was enjoyed by girls, leaders and parent helpers alike.

The evening started off with all 80 girls in the pool, followed by a chip supper on the green of the leisure park.

The Guiders would

like to thank the staff at the Fontygary Leisure Park, chip shop and all the parents who helped to make the evening such a success.

If you would like to know more about Guiding in the Vale of Glamorgan, please ring District Commissioner Jane Rudd on 01446 750645. MG

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PORTHCAWL A-LEVEL PUPILS ARE 'DELIGHTED' WITH THEIR SUCCESS

STAFF and students at Portcawl Comprehensive School expressed "delight" with the A-level results.

Of the 300 entries at A-level, 99 per cent passed at grades A-E, and more than 100 of these were grade 'A' with several gaining the new A* rating.

One student actually gained four 'A' levels, all at the new A* rating and several others achieved a mixture of A* and A.

In all, more than 34 per cent of all examinations taken by the students resulted in grades A or A*. This well exceeds the national average of around 24 per cent.

More than 80 per cent of all the entries achieved grades A-C.

An outstanding

total of 15 students achieved three 'A' levels at grade A or better.

"

Results in the mainstream subjects such as English, mathematics, sciences, humanities and foreign languages were excellent. Students and staff were equally delighted to see exceptional achievements in the more vocational subjects, for example in Information Technology, Physical Education and performing arts at B-Tech level where, for example, five distinctions were shared by two students.

The headteacher, Mr Kenny Dykes, said that almost all of the students will secure the course and university of their first choice. "We are extremely pleased for our students on gaining such impressive

results, realising that there is very fierce competition for university places at times of financial cutbacks.

"Their results have enabled them to secure, in most instances, their first choice courses.

"I am very heartened to witness our very high standards of post-16 provision being maintained, and I am particularly pleased with the number of passes achieved at grade A and the new A* rating.

"We must also recognise the important influence, as well as sacrifice, on the part of parents and guardians".

Pupils with four or more grade As: Lorna Oakley, 4A*; Dafydd Price, 3A* 1A; Joseph Vance Daniel, 4A; Ryan Williams, 1A* 3A.

Pupils with three grade As: Melissa Arneil, 3A; Rosie Barnes, 3A; Rachel Bowen Jones, 3A; Natalie Dawson, 2A*

There were 12 pupils with three or more grade AS (six boys and six girls).



ABOVE:
Emily Wood
and Candice
Booth.



LEFT:
Lorna Oakley
was the
school's star
with a total of
four A* grades.



ABOVE: Melissa Arneil (three As) and mum.



ABOVE: Annie Townsend-Evans
and Rhiannon Aitken.



ABOVE: Ryan Williams
had one A* and three As.



ABOVE: Rebecca Hughes
checks her results.



ABOVE:
A delighted Joseph
Vance-Daniel.



ABOVE:
Amy Jones clutches
the brown envelope.



ABOVE:
James Short and Hanna Durham.

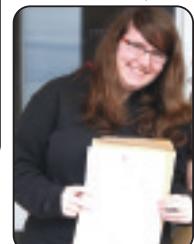
PHOTOGRAPHS by MALCOLM NUGENT



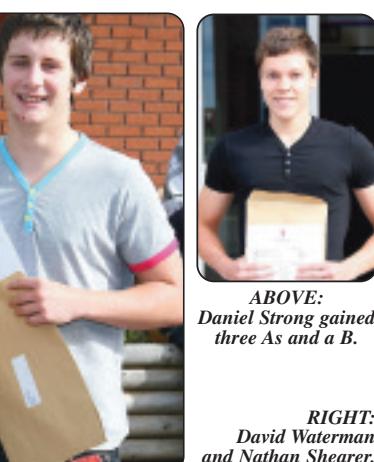
RIGHT:
Sheridan Jones had an A* and two As, and
Rachel Bowen-Jones had three As.



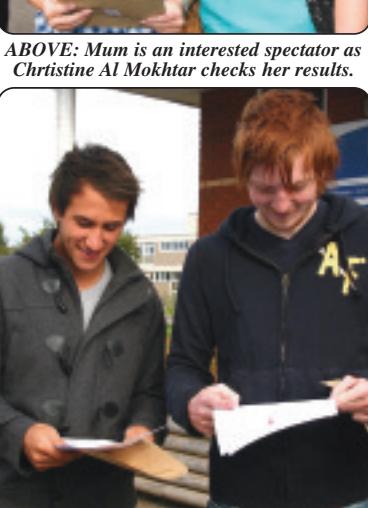
ABOVE:
Elisabeth Hunt, who
had three As.



LEFT:
Natalie Dawson had
two A*'s and an A.



ABOVE:
Daniel Abbruzese
gained three As and a B.



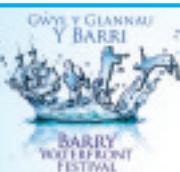
RIGHT:
David Waterman
and Nathan Shearer.



ABOVE:
Jennifer Flye and
Bethan Fitzgerald.



ABOVE: Dale Jenkins
had two A*'s and an A.



Barry Waterfront Festival

Sat 4 September, 10am - 10pm & Sun 5 September, 11am - 7pm

Barry Waterfront Festival presents:
a 'dazzling array'
of attractions for
the whole family

THE Waterfront Festival will play host to a dazzling array of family entertainment over the weekend of Saturday, September 4, to Sunday, September 5, and entry is entirely free!

With the tall ship Stavros and HMS Ramsey tied to their moorings on the dock nibs, the ships will form a tranquil backdrop to an eclectic mix of entertainment and attractions that will be crowding the dock side.

There will be street theatre, music, circus, living history, street arts, children's workshops, a 40-foot whale, and a unique pyrotechnic show.

A festival spokesman said:

"Music as diverse as Ska, Afro Dance and Sian Evans of Kosheen, will mix with street bands, Adamant, Wonderbrass and The Real Macaws."

"There will even be a sea shanty band called Baggyinkle."

"We also have a solar-powered big circus top, which provides an annual venue at Glastonbury."

"It is home to a rich programme of daytime entertainments and activities, while in the evening it will transform into a throbbing family music venue."

Festival visitors will be able to wander through the craft, food and drink village with its real ale bar and pimms tent.

People will also be able to watch Barry Yacht Club's daily sailing regattas.

A band of pirates will thrill youngsters by recreating the true story of when Barry Island was a pirate base.

What will happen when the British red-coats decide to attack



ABOVE : Sparks will fly at the Waterfront Festival this year!

RIGHT:
The Tall Ships festival is coming to Barry Waterfront – so keep your eyes on the water!

the pirate fort?

A family fairground will also be held nearby at the Good Shed site, Hood Road.

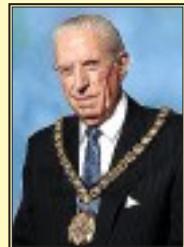
On Sunday, there will be a Thanksgiving Service for the armed forces and Merchant Navy from 9am to 10am. All are welcome to join in.

The events run from 10am - 10pm on Saturday and from 11am - 7pm on Sunday.



The Barry Waterfront Tall Ship Festival

The Mayor of The Vale of Glamorgan Council, Councillor Colin Osborne, would like to wish everyone involved with The Waterfront Festival a very happy and successful weekend.



Hoffai Maer Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, y Cyngorydd Colin Osborne, ddymuno penwythnos hapus a llwyddiannus iawn i bawb sy'n cymryd rhan yng Ngwyl Glannau'r Barri.

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'AHOY THERE, ME HEARTY!'



ABOVE:
Some of the 'crew' and the elegant craft that will entice visitors to the eagerly-awaited event on the Waterfront at Barry, where the slogan is: **WELCOME ABOARD, SHIPMATES!**

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE ORDER, SECTION 16A ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

TALL SHIPS FESTIVAL BARRY WATERFRONT 3rd, 4th & 5th September, 2010

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Vale of Glamorgan Council have made an order under Section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as follows:-

WHEREAS during certain hours of the day and date specified in column 1 of the Schedule hereto the streets or part thereof listed in column 2 of the said schedule will be used for the holding of a relevant event as described in Section 16(A)(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Council, pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 do **HEREBY ORDER AND DIRECT** in order to facilitate the holding of the event, enable members of the public to watch the said event and to reduce the disruption to traffic likely to be caused by the event the following regulation shall be observed:-

THAT, except as provided by the order, the said streets or parts thereof shall be closed to all vehicular traffic including pedal cycles with the exception of Emergency Services and Coastguard vehicles. In addition, those vehicles given permits to access the adjacent construction site and event participants, between the hours specified in column 3 of the said schedule. The penalty for infringement of the said regulation is a fine not exceeding £1000.00.

Column 1	SCHEDULE	Column 3
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Friday 3rd September 2010 To Monday 6th September 2010	The section of Y Rhodfa to be closed is the section adjacent to, and accessible from the roundabout that gives access to the retail park. The grid reference of this roundabout is ST 311696 167642. In addition, from its most westerly point to the junction with Glan-y-Dw'r	07.30am on 3rd September To 07.30am on 6th September
	The footway adjacent to the dock shall be closed adjacent to this event area, this closure of the footway to the side of the dock shall continue from the event area in a westerly direction to its junction with Ffordd Y Mileniwm. The footway immediately adjacent to the construction site connecting The Waterfront footway to Ffordd Y Mileniwm shall remain open at all times.	

Local Signed Diversions shall be in place

Dated this 26th of August 2010

M. Punter, Head of Visible Services
Vale of Glamorgan Council
The Alps Wenvoe CF5 6AA



POP INTO PENARTH... ...for a perfect place to visit!



Forget sleepy image – Penarth is a bustling, lively centre for shoppers

AS a first-time visitor to Penarth, I half-expected it to be a sleepy town filled with shops selling highly-priced merchandise.

I was in for a very pleasant surprise, for on the contrary, what I found was a bustling, lively town centre, even on a Monday, with shops catering for both residents and visitors across the whole spectrum of prices and needs.

The town has several shopping areas separated from each other. The main one is Windsor Road with Glebe Street behind and then leading down beyond the Washington Gallery. There are also shops near the railway station.

The town seems to be thriving at the moment. There were lots of people around and the shops and cafés were busy.

There is a nice range of shops including a book shop, antiques shop, arts and crafts gallery plus those catering for everyday needs.

The town has good butchers, bakeries, a fishmonger plus greengrocers – so there is plenty of choice on the fresh food front.

There are also a couple of small supermarkets that can provide the rest of the groceries that families use.

The Windsor Arcade has a lovely feel, with a number of shops and locally-owned businesses in it, including a wonderful old-fashioned sweet shop, which must be a magnet for children – and older people wishing to go down memory lane to find the traditional sweets of their childhood.

Penarth is a town that can provide for almost all the needs of its residents.

There is a good choice of clothes shops, ranging from chain stores to locally-owned boutiques.

An excellent variety of shops caters for most needs – from pet and garden supplies; hardware and ironmongery; jewellery, furniture and interior design items; gifts, toiletries, pharmacy items, bedding and curtains.

The town also has charity shops selling very good quality items. These are a draw in themselves to visitors from outside the town with an eye for a bargain and this creates a spin-off business for other traders.

One of those who does all her shopping in the town is Coun Maureen Kelly Owen who has lived in Penarth all her life.

She sits on the town council and represents the town on the Vale Council as well. She said: "I can remember Penarth when I was a child and it was a splendid town with many Victorian and Edwardian buildings and very classy shops."

"Then it went through a bit of a slump in the 1980s when we saw shop closures. I am glad to say that many new shops have opened lately and I feel that things are looking up."

"Local people do patronise the shops in the town centre rather than just going to out-of-town supermarkets and the Vale Council has worked hard to make it easier for people to do that."

She recalled that she had been one of the councillors lobbying for changes to parking arrangements and that the creation of on-street parking in Lower Glebe Street had encouraged people back into town while it also relieved some of the pressure on parking in Windsor Road.

"The thing with town centres everywhere is that

by JAYNE ISAAC

RIGHT:
Penarth has a nicely-balanced mix of shops and facilities that cater for most people's needs



people must be able to get into them easily and have convenient parking. If it is too hard for them to reach the shops, they will give up and go to the nearest supermarket to buy everything they need."

Coun Kelly Owen said that town centres like Penarth play an important social role: "It's where people meet each other and catch up on the local news and gossip. Although Penarth gets visitors and tourists, the local people still form the nucleus of those out shopping and the town has great community spirit."

Townspeople were working hard to restore the

Pier Pavilion and fund-raising is well under way at the moment.

"Penarth is a very social town with lots of activities and organisations," she went on. "When I was town mayor a few years ago, I was invited to so many functions and events that it was hard to keep up with everything."

She said that Penarth has a few very nice hotels, including ones that have opened recently and visitors were always keen to go along the seafront and visit the pier. The town also has the marina, which is a draw to visitors and tourists.

Coupled with a good library and fine schools, Mrs Kelly Owen said Penarth is a well rounded town that caters for its residents across a wide spectrum of society.

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For children too, there'll be eye-catching styles and colours from Primigi, El Naturalista and Noel.

So, if it's fitted school shoes now or trendy boots soon, why not pop over to Ogam Igam.



POP INTO PENARTH... ...for a perfect place to visit!



PENARTH - THE GARDEN BY THE SEA - REMAINS 'A WONDERFUL PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND VISIT'

by Penarth Town Mayor, COUN PAUL CHURCH



PENARTH TOWN COUNCIL



**THE TOWN MAYOR
COUNCILLOR
PAUL CHURCH**

and members of Penarth Town Council welcome visitors to Penarth and encourage residents to support businesses in the town.

I AM sure most people in the Vale of Glamorgan will know the many attributes of Penarth such as The Pier, and our beautiful parks, which include Cosmeston Country Park.

The car-parking situation has recently been improved around the town centre, making it much easier for shoppers to park and access our great diversity of shops, cafés, restaurants and bars.

We also have a new bus service running from Cardiff Bay barrage to Cosmeston Country Park. This service picks up from the barrage and drops off passengers around

Penarth town centre, The Pier and seafront, and on to Cosmeston and then the return journey.

Our schools are excellent, and our sports clubs and leisure centre cater for the most popular sports.

I would encourage everyone to come to Penarth – it is a wonderful place to work, live and visit.

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Cognitive-Therapies brings its expertise to Penarth clients

DR KENNETH SPOONER
of Cognitive-Therapies has now relocated to larger offices in Penarth.

Parking has improved

and Penarth railway station is only two minutes away. Ground floor offices also mean better access for his disabled and elderly clients.

In 2010 the year when you have made a decision to change things in

your life? Do you want to stop smoking, lose weight and be the person you have always wanted to be? Do you want to build up that low self esteem or deal with those phobias? Are you depressed, lacking motivation, need your confidence boosted, or have you got addictions and have finally said enough is enough?

If the answer to any of those questions is yes – then call Dr Spooner of Cognitive-Therapies.

Dr Spooner uses a unique combination of psychological therapies to tailor each session to his client's needs and personality, to help solve their issues.

A half hour free initial consultation is offered to all clients, ensuring that the correct therapy is offered and that the client and the therapist are comfortable with each other.

Contact Dr Kenneth Spooner, Cognitive-Therapies, 7 Herbert Terrace, Penarth, CF64 2AH. Tel: 02920 704322 Mob: 07799 568463; E-mail: m17kpsjaguar@aol.com www.cognitive-therapies.co.uk

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Advice from Watts & Morgan

THE property market throughout last year and over the first half of this year was rather good.

Low numbers of properties and keen cash buyers made for an active sellers' market.

The end of HIPS ushered in a large number of sellers, encouraged by the promise of a demand-led surge in house prices.

The result is a market loaded with property. Added to which dwindling numbers of non-cash buyers have become increasingly concerned by reports of austerity, public sector lay-offs and rising house prices.

Second, to ensure a property is the pick of the bunch, it must look the best it ever has.

Cleaning and de-cluttering should be carried out – a sale depends on it.

If prices remain stable, then the best-presented properties will sell

This may seem gloomy first.

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ing Burns, James Wellbeloved and Pedigree.

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Capus also has a bespoke selection of bird tables, for any kind of garden or patio.

Please come and visit us for a look around.

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large or small, our team approach every project in a knowledgeable and professional manner.

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POP INTO PENARTH...
...for a perfect place to visit!

£6m regeneration will restore historic Penarth Edwardian building

A new planning application has been submitted for a £6 million regeneration of Beachcliff, the historic property on Penarth Esplanade.

The new plans follow the latest investigations, which showed that the building has suffered far more extensive structural damage and decay over the years than originally anticipated.

The plans will create four luxury seafront homes offering views across the Bristol

Channel. The new proposals will see the building's Edwardian frontages rebuilt exactly as before. .

Cardiff-developer Richard Hayward - who, along with his wife Karen Athay - is behind the Beachcliff regeneration, said: "When we purchased Beachcliff in 2007 it was already in a very sorry state. We originally planned to restore the existing building but it has become clear that this is not possible.

"Initially we had hoped that we would be much further through the development process by this point. "However, the issues we had with getting vacant possession from the previous occupiers of the building and the structural problems with the building have delayed development and set back our progress.

"We are now confident that our new plans will make a sizable difference to Penarth's historic seafront and the amenities."

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Focus on Loch Fyne, near Cowbridge

HOW VALE SEAFOOD RESTAURANT IS BEATING THE CRUNCH

WHEN it comes to thoughtful sayings on the subject of fish, this typically-out-landish gem by former United States President (and avid sea angler) George W Bush, surely takes some beating:

"I know that human beings and fish can co-exist peacefully."

Whether George W's odd notion of a 'special relationship' would be shared by the fish, is doubtful, given their ultimate destination as tasty dishes served up at specialised seafood restaurants.

Take, for example, Loch Fyne, situated near the Cowbridge turn-off on the A48 to Bridgend, which opened two years ago in a building once occupied by its noted predecessor, Mulligan's – a mecca for seafood enthusiasts from far and wide.

The challenge of drawing in patrons against a backdrop of nationwide financial restraint is being met with several new initiatives, apart from the *a la carte*

menu. The result is that while others may be feeling the pinch, Loch Fyne says that these have helped ensure that there is no falling off in its regular custom.

It has introduced a £10 two-course fixed menu with a choice of four starters, including Loch Fyne rope-grown mussels steamed with chilli and coriander, Cornish sardines, chicken with heather-honey parfait, or soup.

The four main choices include plaice, Scottish hake steak, rump steak, and marinated char-grilled vegetable and mozzarella tart. (One main course only, £7.50).

Dinner for two is offered at £30 (with carafe of red or white wine) and choice of four starters, including fish soup, Loch Fyne citrus smoked salmon, smoked beef or plum tomato, and mozzarella and basil tart.

Main courses on offer include herb-crusted cod fillet, pan fried fillet of sea bass, grilled chicken or linguini (all with accompaniments).

The main menu lists no fewer than 14 starters, ranging in price from £4.45 for whitebait with lemon mayonnaise, and £4.50 for fish soup, to six Loch Fyne oysters with



accompaniments for £9.50 (12 oysters), £16.75).

Other starters include plump Cornish scallops in white wine and garlic cream sauce (£7); moules marinieres (£4.75); classic Loch Fyne smoked salmon (£5.95); and homemade potted pork with piccalilli £5.95).

In addition, there are various seafood and meat dishes served from the grill, while moving up the price range, is shellfish platter with crab (£35.50) or lobster (£45.50).

Loch Fyne has also introduced theme nights, such as Moules Tuesday, when mussels feature on a set £12.50 menu, including glass of wine or beer; and Paella night on Thursday (£25 for two people).

On Friday and Saturday, there is a de luxe platter that includes a half bottle of champagne.

Loch Fyne can be contacted on 01446 776070.

Also among the dishes on offer is pan-fried fillet of sea bass with stir-fried Chinese greens (£11.75); half lobster (£14.85); Scottish smoked haddock risotto with soft poached egg (£9.85); and kiln-roasted salmon fishcakes (£11.75).

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As evening descends, let

some Moroccan lights transform your garden with a display of intricate dancing shadows, and don't forget the barbecue. Below is a recipe – some lovely tasting kebabs, and so easy.

Chicken with lime and Ras el hanout (a Maroque recipe). An interesting use of the iconic Moroccan spice.

2 skinless chicken breasts; 2 garlic cloves, crushed; ½ tsp salt; 1 lime, juice and zest; 1 tsp Ras el hanout; 2 tbsp olive oil; 1 tsp honey.

Chop the chicken into 2m chunks. In a bowl large enough to hold the chicken,

add all the other ingredients and mix well.

Add the chicken and marinade for several hours in the fridge.

Thread the chicken on to metal skewers.

Barbecue the skewers, turning regularly, until cooked through.

Serves 4 to 6 as part of a mixed selection.

Win a £20 voucher to spend in any restaurant featured in this week's GEM!

All you have to do is email or write in with the correct answer to a simple question.
(The clue is on the front page!)

- How many copies of The GEM are distributed each week?
See page 2 for contact information.
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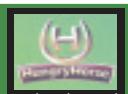


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A touch more seasoning required... BUT THIS PORTION OF SALT IS AN ENJOYABLE ESPIONAGE ROMP!

GIVEN the amount of headlines and column inches about them, it would be easy to forget that Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt are more than just a couple there for tabloid fodder.

Beyond the gossip, the pair have shown a canny knack of choosing

quality projects over quantity, mixing films with box office appeal with more challenging, less commercial work.

While Pitt is gearing up for the release of Terrence Malik's *Tree of Life*, Jolie is putting her action boots back on in espionage thriller, *Salt*.

Jolie plays the titular character, a CIA agent who goes on the run after she is accused by a Russian traitor of being

an undercover spy sent to kill the Russian president.

Pursued by her boss Winter (Liev Schreiber) and agent Peabody (Chiwetel Ejiofor), Salt's attempts to clear her name only cast more doubt upon her – is Salt really who she says she is...

Had the stars aligned a little differently, you would have been seeing a whole different *Salt* on the big screen.

Originally, Tom Cruise was mooted for the lead role, but eventually passed, citing that the role was too close to that of Ethan Hunt in the *Mission: Impossible* franchise (similarities that no doubt didn't affect his decision to make *Knight and Day* one would assume).

One re-write later, swapping the lead character's gender, and Angelina Jolie came on board as Edwin Salt became Evelyn Salt.

However, for its original similarities to one spy franchise, it's another that this version of *Salt* comes close to emulating, sharing the same tone and feel to

that of the *Bourne* series.

As a result, it's a film that twists and turns, playing with your pre-conceptions while delivering some solid action spectacle; and while it's a brazen attempt to create a franchise, it's certainly one that you wouldn't mind seeing more of.

Of course, as the marketing of the film suggested, this is anything but an ensemble piece, the film resting squarely on the not entirely-unattractive shoulders of Angelina Jolie, and the actress is more than up to the task, anchoring the film with an icy cool turn that fits her like a glove.

Certainly, the actress has never been one to play shrinking violets, being attracted to strong characters regardless of genre, and she gets another one here.

Salt is an all-kicking, all-punching fighting machine who takes no prisoners. Yet Jolie knows her way around in this neck of the woods, and offers enough of an insight into the character to

allow us to see she is more than just a robot, showing an emotion behind the eyes that disappears whenever she is threatened.

It is a strong turn by the actress, and one that really holds the film up throughout, her screen presence keeping you gripped throughout.

Alongside her, Chiwetel Ejiofor and Liev Schreiber get the token 'chasing agent' roles that don't give them very much to play with; however, such are the actors' abilities that they bring just that bit more substance to the characters, with neither man disgracing themselves in a film which is female-led.

Scriptwriter Kurt Wimmer is one who is very skilled at genre writing, having penned the likes of *The Recruit*, *Street Kings* and (shudder) *Law Abiding Citizen*, and he delivers another screenplay that ticks the genre boxes but also offers a little bit more in the mix.

While it would have been easy to merely ape the whole 'wrongly accused character goes

on the run to clear their name' narrative that we've seen before, Wimmer throws a few curveballs and twists into the mix that make this a story that is far from predictable.

Eschewing convention, the story whips through at fast pace, Wimmer taking great delight in keeping the viewer on the edge of their seat as the story unfolds, something Phillip Noyce's direction more than assists in.

The Australian director has always been capable of bringing a degree of substance to even the most flimsiest of material, and is more than at home with the world of spies – and here he shows his ability to marry solid spectacle to a fast-paced narrative.

The action sequences aren't going to have Michael Bay worrying anytime soon, but with more than a nod to Bourne director Paul Greengrass, Noyce opts for visceral, hard-hitting close-ups. The action given a veneer of reality (no doubt in part thanks to the gameness of the lead).

Keeping the film moving at a fast pace and refusing to signpost the story's little twists, Noyce offers subtle direction that works incredibly well.

Where the film trips up is that, because of its fast pace, there are more than a few plot holes that go unresolved, while Noyce's use of flashbacks to fill in the blanks don't always work and feel a little bit forced in.

Yet there is enough here to allow, box office willing, for another portion of *Salt*, where more answers will no doubt be coming – a prospect that is enticing enough.

VERDICT – A more

than satisfying Friday night out, *Salt* is more evidence that Angelina Jolie is the female action star to beat. Delivering a strong turn in a story that keeps you guessing throughout, she anchors the film with aplomb.

While it may riff a little too closely to being Jason Bourne on oestrogen, it still makes for a film worth watching. Enjoyable.

SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

Centre prize winners

THE winners of our recent Red Dragon Centre competition for family passes were:

Siân Evans, Elaine Jones, David Hughes, Jason Blackwell, Martin Risby and Tracy Harry.

Congratulations to you all. Watch out for more competitions in The GEM.

ON Wednesday, September 1, it will be the final chance to 'Light up the Night' for the local Marie Curie Hospice in Penarth.

It is the last time the charity will hold its twilights sponsored walk through Dyffryn Gardens at St Nicholas, due to declining numbers.

Clare Notman, of Marie Curie, said: "It's such a shame that this will be the final year. In

the past, we've had more than 200 people taking part, but last year we only had around 50. This year we're in a similar situation, so it's with great sadness that we'll not be holding it again after 2010."

"If you are interested in taking part one last time, though, please get in touch and register over the phone on 02920 426068. "Come along and support this lovely event one final time."

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More Vale of Glamorgan Show results

WELSH MOUNTAIN PONIES

CLASS 88 – Welsh Mountain Pony Yearling. Mr and Mrs CH Smith, Ty Ar Y Graig, Bedwas, Bridgend (680); Mr and Mrs CH Smith, Ty Ar Y Graig, Bedwas, Bridgend (679); Ryan Wilson, Ruskin House, Miskin, Pontyclun (676). CLASS 89 – Welsh Mountain Pony, two or three years old.

K and S Sheil, Ty Isaf, Llangynog, Builth Wells (683); Dr Wynne and David Davies, Ceulan, Miskin (685); Mr R Donati & Miss B Hooper, Milwais House, Pontyclun (688).

CLASS 90 – Novice Welsh Mountain Pony Brood Mare four years old or over that has never won a First Prize in a Brood Mare Class.

S & M Coulthard, Tyr Hen Forwyn, Hafoddyrys (698); I Jenkins, Treoed Y Rhiw Farm, Porth, RCT (700); Miss C Brimfield & E Bath, Areal View, Abergillery (701).

CLASS 91 – Welsh Mountain Pony, Mare or Gelding, four years old or over.

Mrs E Summerfield, c/o Jh. Williams, Bwlch, Brecon (712); Miss S Williams, 21 Church Terrace, St Mary's Church (706); K and S Sheil, Ty Isaf, Llangynog, Builth Wells (702).

CLASS 92 – Welsh Mountain Pony Foal.

K and S Sheil, Ty Isaf, Llangynog, Builth Wells (713); Mrs A Edwards, The Old House, Rhieweillog (695); G Butler & J Jones, 19 Church Terrace, St Mary's Church (714).

CLASS 93 – Welsh Mountain Pony Stallion, four years old or over.

(Kindly sponsored by Celtic Tyre Services (Bridgend) Ltd.)

Mr and Mrs Cobly, Commercial Street, Pontypool (722); Dr Wynne & David Davies, Ceulan, Miskin (720); Miss C Brimfield & E Bath, Areal View, Abergillery (721).

THE BRYNHEULOG PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP given by the late Matthew Williams for the best Welsh Mountain Pony

Mrs E Summerfield, c/o Jh. Williams, Bwlch, Brecon (712) – Champion; S and M Coulthard, Tyr Hen Forwyn, Hafoddyrys (698) – Reserve.

THE PENLLYN CHALLENGE TROPHY for the best animal in Section 'A' Classes

Mrs E Summerfield, c/o Jh. Williams, Bwlch, Brecon (712) – Champion; Mr and Mrs Cobly, Commercial Street, Pontypool (722) – Reserve.

THE LYNDON EVANS MEMORIAL TROPHY for the best Welsh Mountain Pony three years old or younger

K and S Sheil, Ty Isaf, Llangynog, Builth Wells (702); K and S Sheil, Ty Isaf, Llangynog, Builth Wells (713).

WELSH PONIES Section 'B' – not over 137.2cms

CLASS 94 – Sue Easton, Port Talbot (723); Mrs J Raftery, c/o Mark Tamplin, Rudry Mews, Caerphilly (725); CA Langford, Talygarn Drive, Pontyclun (726).

CLASS 95 – Miss L J Evans, Sker Walk, Porthcawl (732); Mr G and Mrs P Thomas, Llanrumney Avenue, Llanrumney (733); Mr G & Mrs P Thomas, Llanrumney Avenue, Llanrumney (734).

CLASS 96 – A Davies, Tai Afrynn, Broadlands, Bridgend (740); CA Phillips, Ty Dwr, Pentreped Road, Aberbeeg (736); CA Langford, Talygarn Drive, Pontyclun (739).

CLASS 97 – CA Langford, Talygarn Drive, Pontyclun (744).

CLASS 98 – R & J Russell, Bryngwennol Stud, St Dogmaels (749); Miss S Spratley, Park Farm, Tycoys, Ammanford (748).

THE THORNBERY CHALLENGE TROPHY

For the best animal in the Section B classes Sue Easton, Port Talbot (723); R & J Russell, Bryngwennol Stud, St Dogmaels (749).

WELSH PONIES Cob Type Section 'C' – not over 137.2cms

CLASS 99 – J. K Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (752).

CLASS 100 – Foal.

JK Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (753).

CLASS 101 – Yearling.

Davies and Anderson, James Court, St Mellons (757); JK Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (758); Mr and Mrs Cobly, Commercial Street, Pontypool (760).

CLASS 102 – Welsh Pony of Cob Type, 2 or 3 years old.

S Plumtree, c/o Esgair Fach, Cwmdu, Llandeilo (766); Mr Carl Kerrigan, Waunfaydd Farm, Cefn Cribwr (762); Len and Sue Palmer, Clapham Terrace, Forgeside, Gwent (761).

THE LOUIS FISHER PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP For the best animal in the Section C classes

J. K Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (752) – Champion; JK Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (753) – Reserve.

WELSH COBS

CLASS 104 – Welsh Cob Yearling.

JK Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (771); M.D & C Evans, Gwynfaes, Hermon, Carmarthen (770); Graham Williams, Valio Stud, Pentwyn, Ebbw Vale (772).

CLASS 105 – Welsh Cob, two or three years old. C Best, Cwlfwm Cariad, Pencoedtre (774); Graham Williams, Valio Stud, Pentwyn, Ebbw Vale (775); Mrs N Brown, Dovedale St, Barry (773).

CLASS 106 – Welsh Cob, Mare or Gelding four years old or over.

JK Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (780); Graham Williams, Valio Stud, Pentwyn, Ebbw Vale (781); Denny Family, Esgair Fach, Cwndu, Llandeilo (779).

CLASS 107 – Welsh Cob Foal.

Tony Jones, Maverick Stables, Argae Lane (782); JK Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (780).

CLASS 108 – Welsh Cob Stallion, four years old or over.

M D & C Evans, Gwynfaes, Hermon, Carmarthen (787).

PARKHOUSE PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP for the best animal in Section 'D' classes

J. K Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (780) – Champion; JK Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (771) – Reserve.

SUPERME CHAMPIONSHIP

THE MRS HOMFRAY CHALLENGE CUP will

be awarded for the best exhibit in sections A, B, C and D.

JK Walters, Mafeking Terrace, Tredegar (752) – Champion; Mrs E Summerfield, c/o JH Williams, Bwlch, Brecon (712) – Reserve.

FIELD CLASSES

CLASS 109 – For the Best Clamp of Silage. (Kindly sponsored by Albar Wilde, Stembridge Court, Llandow, Nr. Cowbridge).

VJ Price & Son Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan. - 1004; G Anthony & Son Haregrove Farm, Laleston. - 1008; VJ Thomas, Pancross Farm, Llancarfan. - 1005.

THE MAJOR FRANK HOMFRAY PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP.

VJ Price & Son Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan.

CLASS 110 – For the Best Bag of Silage. (Kindly sponsored by R. & L. Anthony, Tythegston).

R & L Anthony, Tythegston Farm, Bridgend. - 1014; D Anthony & Son, Cwm Risca Farm, Laleston. - 1013; Gareth Rees, Wrinstone Farm, Wenwen. - 1010.

FRED WILLIAMS MEMORIAL CUP

R & L Anthony, Tythegston Farm, Bridgend. Ley Classes (judged in May).

CLASS 111 – Long Term Ley - 3 or more seasons. R & L Anthony, Tythegston Farm, Bridgend. - 1020; RD Edwards, Pwllwrach Farm, Colwinstone. - 1018; VJ Price & Son Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan.

THE GEORGE GIBSON PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP for the Best Long Term Ley

G Anthony & Son, Haregrove Farm, Laleston. CLASS 112 – Short Term Ley - 1 or 2 seasons (to include Italian Rye Grass).

G. Anthony & Son Haregrove Farm, Laleston. R & L Anthony, Tythegston Farm, Bridgend; VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan. - 1031.

THE PENLLYN CRICKET CLUB PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

G. Anthony & Son Haregrove Farm, Laleston. Combinable Crop.

CLASS 113 – Best Field of Winter Barley. (Kindly sponsored by C. H. Knight & Ptns).

E H Radcliffe & Son, Penmark Place Farm, Penmark. - 1039; R S Thomas & Son, Sutton Newydd Farm, Wick. - 1037; RE Brown & Son, New Beaupre Farm, St Hilary. - 1040.

THE EVAN CROOK MEMORIAL CUP.

E H Radcliffe & Son, Penmark Place Farm, Penmark.

CLASS 114 – Best Field of Winter Oats.

(Kindly sponsored by Western Arable Services, The Cattle Market Ltd, Glos.) A R & H C Thomas, Splot Farm, St Donats; R J Thomas & Son, Gilestone Farm, St Athan; E H Radcliffe & Son, Penmark Place Farm, Penmark.

CLASS 115 – Best Field of Winter Wheat. (Kindly sponsored by Julian Kelly and David Harris NFU Office, Cowbridge).

R.E Brown & Son, New Beaupre Farm, St Hilary. - 1055; W James & Son, The Grange, Wick. - 1052; A R & H C Thomas, Splot Farm St. Donats. - 1050.

THE W D JAMES MEMORIAL PERPETUAL CHALLENGE TROPHY.

R.E Brown & Son, New Beaupre Farm, St Hilary. - 1057.

CLASS 116 – Best Field of Spring Barley.

Vale Show Perpetual Challenge Cup.

RE Brown & Son, New Beaupre Farm, St Hilary. - 1057; A R & H C Thomas, Splot Farm St. Donats. - 1063; D Anthony & Son, Cwm Risca Farm, Laleston. - 1061.

THE VALE SHOW PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP

R.E Brown & Son, New Beaupre Farm, St Hilary. - 1057.

CLASS 117 – The Best Winter Oilseed Crop (Kindly sponsored by Masstock Arable (UK) Ltd). W James & Son, The Grange, Wick. - 1070; R & L Anthony, Tythegston Farm, Bridgend. - 1071; R.E Brown & Son, New Beaupre Farm, St Hilary. - 1057.

CLASS 118 – Best Field of Beans

IG Jefferies, East Monkton Farm, Wick. - 1076; VJ Thomas, Pancross Farm, Llancarfan. - 1072; R S Thomas & Son, Sutton Newydd Farm, Wick. - 1075.

(CUP TO BE DECIDED)

W James & Son, The Grange, Wick.

THE ROBERT THOMAS MEMORIAL PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP. To be awarded to the competitor receiving the highest number of points in the Combinable Crop Section.

IG Jefferies, East Monkton Farm, Wick.

CLASS 119 – Best Field of Maize – Judging September 2009.

Jack Evans & Son, Marcross Farm, Marcross. - 1086; G Anthony & Son Haregrove Farm, Laleston. - 1082; VJ Thomas, Pancross Farm, Llancarfan. - 1087.

THE AR THOMAS PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP for the Best Maize Crop.

(Kindly sponsored by Masstock Arable (UK) Ltd).

CLASS 120 – Best Clamp of Maize Silage

(Kindly sponsored by Julian Kelly and David Harris NFU Office, Cowbridge).

Trade Exhibits

1. Best Trade Stand mainly supplying goods and services to the agricultural industry

The EDWARD JOHN MEMORIAL CUP will be presented to the winner. Riverlea, Llandow; David Evans; R and T Fabrication.

2. Best Trade Stand supplying goods and services to the general public and not included in Class 1

The GALE MARTIN MEMORIAL PERPETUAL TROPHY for the best commercial Trade Stand.

Karcher (Aqua Air Jetting Equipment); Barry Ford; Topstak.

Hunt Scurry

Pentrych Hunt; Llangeinor Hunt.



ABOVE and BELOW: As these pictures show, it can be a dog's life being at the Vale Show



List of prize winners for home produce, floral, crafts and children's competition

Section 1 - Preserves: Jar Marmalade – Freddie John, Llancarfan; Jar Strawberry Jam – Mrs V Charles, Cowbridge; Lemon Curd – Vanessa Evans, North Cornelly; Jar Raspberry Jam – Thelma Lougħor, Flemington; Jar Gooseberry Jam – Charlotte Thomas, Castle Upon Alun; Pear chutney – Mrs Ann Wallis, Cowbridge; Any Vegetable Chutney – Thelma Lougħor, Flemington.

Section 2 - Cookery: Wholemeal Loaf – Claire Ingram, Llantwit Major; Three Naan Bread – Vanessa Evans, North Cornelly; Savoury Quiche – Mrs Ann Wallis, Cowbridge; Two Cornish Pasties – Vanessa Evans, North Cornelly; Five Cheese Scones – Lulu Thomas Rees, Llanbetheria; Danish Butter Cake – Lucy Morgan, Marcross; A round of Shortbread – Thelma Lougħor, Flemington; Five Welsh Cakes – Mrs FJ Butters, St Athan; Chocolate Sponge – Olive Davies, Moulton; Marmalade Spice Cake – Mrs B Hutchings, Llantwit Major; Boiled Fruit Cake – Mrs P Vincent, Dinas Powys; Apple Tart – Vanessa Evans, North Cornelly; Three Fruit Muffins – Mrs Ann Wallis, Cowbridge; Five Decorated Cup Cakes – Charlotte Thomas, Castle upon Alun; Five Carrot Cake Slices – Sarah Davies, St Mary Church; Three Fruit Scones (men only) – Raymond Hellard, Aberthina.

Section 3 - Floral Arrangements: An arrangement of All Foliage – Mrs Mary Gray, Llancarfan; An arrangement 'Just Red' – Sharr Williams, Gilestone; A petite arrangement – Mrs Tina Evans, Peterston super Ely; An exhibit using driftwood – Sharr Williams, Gilestone; A table centre – Mrs Mary Gray, Llancarfan.

Section 4 - Craft: A Peg Bag – Mrs Betty Fisher, Miskin.

A poster advertising the Vale of Glamorgan Show (computerised) – Samuel Thomas, Bonvilston.

A pizza – Sarah Callaway, Bridgend.

Chairman's Cup competition: A selection of five items of cookery, representing a harvest picnic – Mrs FJ Butters, St Athan.

Section 5 - Art: Watercolour – Una Trotman, Bridgend; An article of canvas work – Angela Robins, Crossways; A paperweight in bobbin lace – Margaret Edwards, Llansanffra; An item using recycled material – Ann Marie Hawkins, Cowbridge; An item of fashion jewellery – Kay Bowring, Sully; Babies booties (to be donated to local premature baby unit) – LG Handley, Llantwit Major; An item in patchwork – Cathy Thomas, Llancarfan; A greeting card in cross stitch – KM Turner, Llanaeas.

Section 5 - Art: Watercolour – Una Trotman, Rhosse; Oil/Acrylic – Thelma Lougħor, Flemington; Drawing – Brenda Dwek, Cowbridge; Pastels – Diane Wise, Penarth;

Photograph - animals on the move – Mrs Pamela Lewis, Bovertown; An item of carved wood – Glyn Jones, Welsh St Donats.

Section 6 - Children's classes: Under-7 years: A decorated boiled egg – Hannah Robins, Crossways; An edible necklace – Hannah Robins, Crossways; Healthy eating lunch box – Keira Atyeo Canter, Llansanffra.

Age 8-11 years: An edible animal – Isabel Thomas, Castle upon Alun; Three Muffins – Lucy Morgan, Marcross; Healthy eating picnic box for a school trip – Isabel Thomas, Castle upon Alun.

Age 12-16 years: Five Welsh cakes – Tara Joyce, Miskin.

A poster advertising the Vale of Glamorgan Show (computerised) – Samuel Thomas, Bonvilston.

A pizza – Sarah Callaway, Bridgend.

Chairman's Cup competition: A selection of five items of cookery, representing a harvest picnic – Mrs FJ Butters, St Athan.

VALE SHOW LIVES UP TO ITS BILLING AS AREA'S PREMIER OUTDOOR EVENT

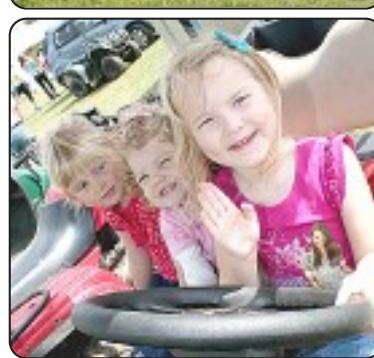
THE Vale of Glamorgan Show has repeatedly earned its laurels as the area's premier outdoor event.

This year proved a record-breaking one, with more than 200 trade stalls sold with more than a week to go until the big day. But as Glyn Evans' images of the day demonstrate, the stalls were just a small part of the entertainment, attractions and stars on show.

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

Other pictures are available from this event.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:
e-mail glyn.evans01@tiscali.co.uk
telephone 01446 773225.



A CASE OF FRIENDS REUNITED AS THE CROWDS GATHER AT THE VALE SHOW

FOR the third successive year, the rain gods relented and the Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show enjoyed a sun-shiney day.

As these pictures by Mike Wilcock testify, it was also an opportunity to catch up with old friends, make a few new ones, or even get button-holed by a politician or two!

The pictures on this page were taken by MIKE WILCOCK.

They are available to order from wilcock60@aol.com or telephone 01446 774502.



'Support farmers – as they try to support you!'

FOR much of the past decade, there has been a tendency throughout the developed world to take farming and the production of food for granted.

The post World War II period saw substantial increases in agricultural production, in part driven by mechanisation, which in turn led to the 'affordable' food era.

Until 2007, few would have believed that food security was anything but an issue for the poorest, least-developed countries in the world.

But have you ever wondered whether the food you eat today costs more or less in real terms than it did a generation ago?

In 1957, just a few years after the end of rationing, the average household spent £4.80, a third of its weekly spend – on food. Compared to the present day – food expenditure fell to 13 per cent of the household budget in 2008.

In real terms – food in Britain has actually never been so affordable as it is today. On an average salary, in 1966, Mr Jones would have to work for 44 minutes to buy a joint of beef. Compare that to 2009, when he would have to work less than 26 minutes to buy the same joint.

It would take 25 minutes work to buy a loaf of bread in 1966 – compared to less than four minutes work in 2009.

Similarly, households consume a similar amount of fresh milk today compared to

50 years ago – but at almost a quarter of the cost! Is it any wonder why there has been a mass exodus from the British dairy industry?

The term food security has been much debated in today's media. It has been widely publicised that world food production will have to increase by 50 per cent by 2030. World population has grown by 13 per cent in the past ten years, and it is expected that the population will grow from 6.8 billion to 7 billion in 2012, and exceed 9 billion by 2050 according to the UN.

A higher population will obviously increase the demand for food.

Where will all this food come from? The F's in farming – feed, fuel and fertiliser will be key to this production.

But we are not just facing rising oil prices and water shortages, the changing dietary requirements of the developing world as it becomes richer, combined with land being used to provide crops for fuel rather than food, and climate change bringing drought to countries such as Australia.

Water scarcity is a major challenge – global demand for water has tripled in the last 50 years. Energy prices are likely to remain high which will affect growing, packaging and shipping costs and the availability of land is a major factor as there will be more pressure on farmers to produce more from a limited area of land.

Food has become as important as energy security as more and more attention is being paid to food miles and carbon footprint, and it has been recognised that consumers have become more interested in provenance and food quality as well as environmental sustainability, which works in favour of Welsh and British farmers.

There are huge benefits in buying local food – you will cut down your food miles, support your local economy, and you will be buying safe food which has full traceability back to the farm of origin.

British farmers adhere to some of the highest levels of animal and welfare standards in the world. The farmer also gives great value – out of an average basket of food costing £37 – the farmer receives just £13.

So visit your local farmers market – there are more than 500 regular markets around the country. You can visit a farm shop – there are over 3,000 farm shops scattered throughout Britain's beautiful countryside – each giving the visitor a delightful opportunity to access local, fresh, seasonal food and drink.

Meet the real producers of your food and this is the best way to ensure that your food is fresh and, yes, it tastes good too!

But even if you head to your local supermarket – if you can't buy Welsh, then buy British.

STELLA OWEN
(NFU policy advisor)

PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Walking in the rain to see mystery of Tinkinswood

WITH rain lashing down and an unfavourable forecast, leader Barbara decided to forego her planned walk in the mountainous Craig y Nos area and stay closer to home for a local walk.

Starting from Wenvoe, the small group of six walkers donned their waterproof gear and took the path through the woods and joined the lane past the kennels to St Lythans Down. Soon the rain stopped and outer garments were hastily removed before they crossed the Downs.

Carefully crossing the busy A48, they walked through Old Coedardywg picking ripe blackberries as they passed. The loop that took them around Haefaeas towards Homri and St Nicholas village gave them wonderful views to the north.

Feeling grateful with their overcast weather, the group could see great black clouds hanging across the mountains in the north and rainfall could clearly be seen falling.

Reaching the parish church of St Nicholas, they had a chance to stop for refreshment before passing the school, re-crossing the A48 and making their way to the ancient burial chamber at Tinkinswood and all but one of them had visited this site many

times. Built around 4000BC, this wedge-shaped cairn with a rectangular stone chamber and a herringbone patterned forecourt is topped by a huge capstone measuring 24 x 15 feet and which weighs around 40 tons.

When excavated, 920 pieces of human bone of both sexes were found, mostly in a broken condition, and folklore states that the group of boulders on the south side of the cairn were women who were turned to stone for dancing on the Sabbath.

Reaching the lane, attempts to follow the path to Vianshill failed miserably – thanks to head-high oil seed rape crop – so the group changed direction and continued past Dylfrynn Gardens to St Lythans where they finally stopped for lunch.

A weak sun broke through the very dark rain clouds and a few curious cows ambled over to inspect the group.

Continuing on a path which led them to New Wallace Farm, the rain began to fall once again.

Passing fields of giant sunflowers, the group reached a gate where care was taken to make sure the cows and sheep remained in their respective fields!

Leaving New Wallace, they walked along the quiet lane that passes through the golf course towards Wenvoe Castle, where the rain stopped and wet clothing was removed before the final

stretch which led them back to Wenvoe village.

On 28 August, meet at 9am at the Barry Waterfront for a 10-12-mile mod/hard walk at Cwm Ogwr Fach and Mynydd Maesteg; contact Barbara on 01446 734686.

On 29 August, meet at 11am at the Blue Anchor, East Aberthaw for a 6-7-mile stroll, when guest leaders Diane and Linda will be hosting their Pubs of the Vale walk - taking in five watering holes, or just meet after the walk at the Blue Anchor for a friendly drink; contact Diane on 01446 404474.

On Bank Holiday Monday,

meet at 10am at Lidl in Barry (please use roadside parking) for a 10-12-mile moderate walk (the route and distance will depend on the weather); contact Joy on 01446 737131.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice. For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk

Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

NEWS IN BRIEF

'TREMENDOUS VALE SHOW'

– says Vale AM Jane Hutt



Jane Hutt with the women's food and farming union.

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, lavished praise on the organisers during her visit to the Vale Show.

"The show was tremendous! With wonderful weather the crowds flocked to Fonmon

Castle grounds and the organic community in the Vale in all its facets, as well as providing a great day out for Vale residents and visitors from far and wide," she commented.

(See more Vale Show results on pages 26-27)

Chairman highlights stroke dangers at Vale Show

NFU CYMRU offered visitors to its stand at the Vale of Glamorgan Show the chance to have their blood pressure checked for free – to help reduce the risk of strokes.

It teamed up with The Stroke Association Wales, its chosen charity for 2010, to offer free blood pressure tests, throughout the show season, as part of the charity's 'Know Your Blood Pressure Campaign'.

Richard Isaac, Glamorgan NFU Cyru county chairman, said: "The free blood pressure check at the Vale Show aimed to bring attention to the causes of stroke, the biggest of which is high blood pressure."

Bridget Stadden, the Stroke Association's fundraising manager for Wales explained:

"We know that high blood pressure is the biggest risk factor for stroke – and that around 40 per cent of all strokes could be prevented, if people with undiagnosed high blood pressure were identified and treated."

Another community event sponsored by

The GEM

The Vale's favourite newspaper announces this year's Grand Annual

JUNIOR ANGLING COMPETITION

at the WATERFRONT, BARRY on Sunday, 12th September

Hosted by Seaview Lads Angling Club Services and Social Club, Barry

*BOOK IN from 10am (host rules apply)
FISHING 10.30am-2.30pm
COMPETITION FEES £1*

ALL PROCEEDS TO LATCH CHILDREN'S CHARITY, LLANDOUGH



FIRST PRIZE
ROD AND REEL
plus Annual Trophy and many, many other prizes

Details from Alan Peterson
Tel 01446 732989

ESPLANADE BAR PLANS COULD GET GO-AHEAD

CONTROVERSIAL plans to extend one of the kiosks on Porthcawl's Esplanade are being recommended for approval when the plans come up for discussion at the development control committee today (Thursday).

The application, for the Piccolo bar, has been lodged by the Sidoli brothers. At the moment, the kiosk has outdoor seating areas on both sides.

They want to extend the roof to cover this area on the eastern side of the kiosk and to fully enclose the seating area on the western side.

This would be a flat-roofed glass structure with sliding doors. The tables and chairs would be located inside, although the doors would be open in fine weather.

A storage pod would also be provided to store the tables and chairs when not in use.

The proposal is described as creating extensions to the roof by "wrapping a new roof around the existing building just below eaves level and extending out a 'thin floating canopy' to create two covered side areas".

While the council's conservation and design officer did not object in principle, he said that he had some slight doubts about some detail. He is concerned about the risk of vandalism and has urged the applicants to install laminated glass which will not shatter. He fears that the glass enclosure may be tempting to vandals.

"It is hoped that residents and visitors to

by
Jayne Isaac

the intention that part of the pedestrian area should be occupied by tables and chairs."

Their report states that the flat roof and sheet glass of the extensions would be in conflict with the architecture of the promenade and would harm the symmetry of the seafront design and character of this part of the Porthcawl conservation area.

He felt that the architects should consider whether it would be prudent to create space for roller shutter housing within the depth of the roof structure, to ensure that the purity of the design is not compromised by awkwardly fitted shutter boxes at the top of the glazing units.

The officers add that the design is "contemporary and minimalist" and the bright colour of the pod would highlight the "fun" of the resort. But Porthcawl Civic Trust Society is not happy with the proposal – whether fun or not!

They were involved in the design of the two kiosks when they were built in the 1990's and these have been built to a traditional Victorian-Edwardian style with pitched roofs which members feel will be incongruous with the two extensions being proposed.

Their observations state: "The extensions contradict and totally ignore the principles that were fundamental to the concept of the Esplanade and the original design proposals submitted by Porthcawl Civic Trust..

"It was not the intention that the kiosks should provide an inside seating area nor was it a listed building.

The report adds: "It is considered that the proposed development would preserve and enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area and would not affect the public realm area of the Porthcawl conservation area.

Planners conceded that good quality design is crucial in the conservation area and near the Grand Pavilion which is a listed building.

The results were as follows:

Overall long course winner – Mark

defence. Prop Cory Evans' work rate was superb.

Unfortunately, Barry seemed to lose direction. Dropped passes and missed tackles summed up their performance, because you could see they were promoted for playing good solid rugby.

Miles slotted over another penalty, this time against the wind and that was to be the only score of the second half.

Although the points came from Miles, this would not have been possible without the excellent team performance put in by the whole team.

The seniors have a break this weekend, while the Youth tour Gloucester over the Bank Holiday weekend.

On September 4, the Police start their league campaign with a visit to Blaenarvon, and the Youth visit Tylorstown.

Half-time: Barry 5 – SWP 21.

Barry started the second half aiming to keep the ball tight, but could not dent the Police

BS

POLICE SHARP-SHOOTER MILES MAKES BARRY PAY THE PENALTY

SOUTH Wales Police travelled to newly promoted Barry for their second pre-season friendly.

Work commitments and injuries led to a few youth players being drafted in for the fixture. Barry attacked from the kick-off, but solid defence from the Police stopped them from getting any points on the board.

An infringement by Barry led to outside-half Ryan Miles getting the first points of the game with a well-struck penalty.

Another two penalties from Miles increased the Police lead. Scrum-half Haydn Williams looked dangerous every time he had ball in hand, and he put Police runners into space at every opportunity.

Barry had the bigger forwards to put the

**BARRY RFC 5
SOUTH WALES POLICE 24**

Police under pressure and showed why they were promoted the previous season.

They expertly kept the ball tight to gain territory, but the back row of Simon Baines, Dan Burton and Jason Davies never missed a tackle, and again stopped Barry from getting points on the board.

The next points again came from the boot of Miles, this time from the centre of the field within his own half. The Police were now looking dangerous and strong runs came from hooker and captain Karl Davies.

He linked well with brother Craig, who split the home defence on several occasions. Police lock Calum Rogers was outstanding throughout the game with his ball carrying and pace around the field.

Barry started the second half aiming to keep the ball tight, but could not dent the Police

defence. Prop Cory Evans' work rate was superb.

The Police were now securing great ball from the lineout, with second row Chris Price on fine form. Youth wing Jac Evans came close on several occasions and full-back Jack Miles, making his debut, came into the line well and looked safe at full-back.

More indiscipline from Barry saw Miles add another two penalties to bring it tally so far to 18.

Barry still pushed for points and eventually got the try they deserved, despite the efforts of several Police defenders. However, the Police had the last word of the half, with Miles slotting over another penalty.

Half-time: Barry 5 – SWP 21.

Barry started the second half aiming to keep the ball tight, but could not dent the Police



Another Miles kick against the wind.



Another storming run by Calum Rogers.

PORTHCAWL LIFEGUARDS HOST ANNUAL EVENT

Round-the-bay challenge for the long-distance swimmers



ABOVE: The mayor with Hannah Gibbons



ABOVE: Coun Mary Emment-Lewis with the overall winner, Mark Jenkins.



ABOVE: Helen Evans.

PHOTOGRAPHS by ANDY CHAPMAN

PORTHCAWL Lifeguard Club staged its annual round the bay swim recently, on a perfect Sunday morning, with blue skies and a calm sea.

Jenkins.
Senior long course (male) – first, Mark Jenkins; second, Rich Watkins.

Masters long course (male) – first, David Murray; second, Tony Panicola.

Junior long course (male) – first, Ashley Lewis; second, Tom Allen.

Masters long course (female) – first, Rhian Thomas; second, Mandy Clarke.

Junior long course (female) – first, Hannah Gibbons; second, Nicole Davenport.

Overall short course winner – A. Lewis.

Senior short course winner (male) – Ashley Matthews.

Masters short course (male) – first, A. Lewis; second, Steve Gibbons.

Masters short course (female) – first, Helen Evans.



ABOVE: Ashley Lewis.



ABOVE: Rhian Thomas.



ABOVE: Ashley Matthews.

Park permission granted

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

darkness falls.

Porthcawl Town Council leader David Deere said that at long last the end was in sight.

"If we can get planning consent today, we intend to place the contract immediately with Maverick who are our preferred providers. They have constructed many successful skateboard parks throughout the UK.

"The council sees this as the first of many small infrastructure benefits for Porthcawl.

"We have already committed ourselves to provide some funding for the new sports pavilion at Lock's Lane and we will also provide a new pedestrian crossing on Newton Nottage Road. These schemes are in the pipeline."

The ruling Conservative group on the council was opposed on this project by the Liberal Democrats, but supported by Labour.

Coun Alana Davies, who is the Labour borough member for Porthcawl east central and also sits on the town council, said that there had been a lot of misunderstanding about this scheme but she hoped that the meeting held recently, when all the issues were thrashed out, had settled these.

"We have made some changes so I hope everyone is now happy.

"We need these type of facilities in the town, especially in this part of town, for our own young people and also for young visitors.

"I am delighted that the town council has had the vision to put up the money, along with funding from the county borough, to provide this facility.

"We already have a user group set up and these young people have given us invaluable advice about how the scheme should be developed.

"I hope that they keep going to help youngsters master the skateboarding skills that they need and to monitor what's going on there."

Coun Davies paid tribute to Coun Deere and said that it had been a long haul.

"He has stuck to his guns over this and has listened to concerns. There is no doubt that the council is now putting forward things that will benefit the people of Porthcawl.

"In my view, people do not mind the increase in council tax as long as they can see where the money is being spent."

HIGHS AND LOWS FOR VALE'S YOUNG ATHLETES IN SHOWPIECE FINAL

Cwpan NASUWT CYMRU CUP
Charlie Hughes Track & Field
Trophy event at Penlan, Brecon

REPORT by
PETER MORRIS
PICTURES by
IAN DIXON

THERE was joy for the boys from Cowbridge, but disappointment for Llantwit Major girls at the last big schools' track and field fixture of the summer term – the NASUWT Cymru Cup Final at Brecon.

To qualify for this end-of-term fixture, arguably the top grassroots track and field event in Wales, each of the eight Welsh Schools' districts organises a preliminary competition for boys and girls at two age groups, under-14 (years 7 & 8) and under-16 (years 9 & 10), with the eight winners qualifying for the NASUWT Cup, and the eight second placed teams qualifying for the Plate Final, held at the same venue on the same date.

At the Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan schools final in June, Cowbridge were comfortable winners of the under-14 boys' section while Llantwit, who had tied with Cardiff High in the under-14 girls' grouping last year, this time claimed the under-16 girls' cup by half a point from Whitchurch.

Thankfully, on finals day, rain held off until the end of the meeting while the usual Brecon breeze, from the 100 metres start end, was in evidence helping the

sprinters and hurdles, and some of the jumpers.

The Llantwit girls produced a mixed set of results: Megan Osborne (1500) was the only individual winner, with the experienced Lucy Taylor (long jump) and the much-improved Emma Worrall (high jump) finishing second, while Lucy Tarrant – though not on top form, still claimed third in the 800.

This under-16 section is a funny one and, despite some bottom half placings in the sprints and throws, the Llantwit girls were still in with a shout, with just the relay to come, placing joint second with Olchfa on 52 points, with Caereinion, from Powys heading the field on 53.5 points.

As any organiser wants, the relay sorted everything out. Caereinion could only finish fifth, taking their score to 58.5.

Olchfa were comfortable winners of the relay, and the nine points for the win gave them an unbeatable score of 61, while the Llantwit girls will be disappointed with a seventh place finish for a score of 54, and third place.

Llantwit have qualified a team to the cup final on a number of occasion, but the school's only victory was in 2000 from the u16 boys.



Megan Osborne (No 7) won the 1,500 metres.

While the Llantwit performances were inconsistent, there was no such problem for Mr Glyn Williams and his Cowbridge boys, who claimed 11 individual top three placings, and took the relay win.

George Griffiths (100 and long jump), Cameron Jones (1,500), Tom Trotman (high jump) and Harry Stubbington (javelin) all claimed nine points from event victories.

Trotman (200), Josef Gaughan (300 and shot), Brad Rosser (75 Hurdles) and Harry Dowell-Bennett chipped in seven points from their second placed finishes.

The scoring was completed with six points from Josh Thomas in the 800 and four points from Liam Martin (triple jump), plus another nine from the relay squad, to give a total of 99 points, the highest of the day – with the victory margin to second-placed Cwm Rhymni a gigantic 17 points.

The competition was first staged in 1988, when Cowbridge won both of the under-14 sections. Following that double success, the under-16 girls won in 1992 and the under-16 boys in 1993. The under-14 boys were winners in 2006, so this year's success takes the total to six, easily the best of all the Vale schools. Well done, Cowbridge!

Under-14 boys

1 Cowbridge (Cardiff & Vale) 99; 2 YG Cwm Rhymni (Glamorgan V) 72; 3 YG Gwyr (Afan NT) 69.5; 4 Syr Hgh Owen (Eryri) 63; 5 Maes yr Yrfa (Dyfed) 60; 6 Llantarnam (SE



ABOVE:
Chloe Phillips, fifth in the shot.

Wales) 50; 7 Castell Alun (NE Wales) 44; 8 Welshpool (Powys) 22.5
Cowbridge results:
100: Ws 3.7 1 George Griffiths 11.66
200: Ws 3.9 2 Tom Trotman 26.45
300: 2 Josef Gaughan 42.01
800: 3 Joshua Thomas 28.90
1500: 1 Cameron Jones 14.99
75H: Ws 2.5 2 Brad Rosser 13.37
HJ: 1 Tom Trotman 1.50
LJ: 1 George Griffiths 5.65/4.4
TJ: 5 Liam Martin 9.00 SP (3.25kg): 2 Josef Gaughan 11.77 DT (1kg): 2 Harry Dowell-Bennett 31.79 JT (400g): 1 Harry Stubbington 34.85 4x100: 1 Cowbridge 49.00
Under-16 girls
1 Olchfa (Afan NT) 61; 2 Caereinion (Powys) 58.5; 3 Llantwit Major



ABOVE:
Second place in the long jump
for Lucy Taylor

Council upgrade their disability facilities in Barry

THE Vale Council has spent £40,000 in recent weeks upgrading the facilities at Barry Leisure Centre, to make it more accessible for people with disabilities.

A partially disabled person, who wished to remain anonymous, had contacted The GEM to raise the issue of the toilets at the leisure centre.

The reader pointed out: "There are lots of things that need urgent attention. There is a problem with the toilets – in particular the family changing room where the disabled toilet

has not been in use for about six months, leaving just one toilet that takes an age for the tank to fill up. Surely the Vale has plumbers?"

"This has been reported to the staff but nothing has been done. I feel this is urgent and the toilet should be repaired immediately."

Dave Knevet, the Vale's operational manager for tourism and leisure, has confirmed that the problem was being addressed:

"The disabled toilet in the female changing room is being repaired as a matter of urgency. The council is committed to improving its upgraded."

facilities under its 'single equalities scheme'.

"Consequently, over the past few months the council has undertaken works to all of its leisure centres with a view to increasing their accessibility."

He explained: "At Barry Leisure Centre these works, costing some £40,000, have consisted of the upgrading of the existing disabled toilet facilities.

"A new accessible, independent-use changing room has also been created and the disabled car parking spaces and main entrance to course have all been

College 'first'

Barry College student Daniel Jones has become the first to graduate from a part time distance learning course in aircraft engineering designed to support budding engineers study, while offering the flexibility to meet their work-life needs.

PACT meetings

BARUC PACT, Barry Island Community Centre, September 1, at 7pm.

CADOC PACT, Palmerston Community Centre, September 8, at 7pm.

LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT, Llantwit Major Leisure Centre, August 31, at 7pm.

COFFEE & CHAT, Wenfao Arms, August 31 at 10.30am.

SULLY STREET SURGERY, August 27, outside One Stop Shop, South Road between 11am-12noon.

CORNERSWELL PACT, Cogan Leisure Centre, September 2, at 7pm.

STANWELL PACT, Elved Avenue Church, September 3, at 7pm.

'Unite to tackle climate change'

COMMUNITIES AND BUSINESSES are being urged to tackle climate change by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Christina Hirst, acting director of RICS Wales, believes that this could reap financial and environmental benefits if they worked together.

Ms Hirst said: "At the moment, renewable energy schemes seem to be either on a very large scale or particularly small scale, from huge offshore wind farms down to a solar panel on an individual home.

"However, there is so much scope for mid-sized and shared projects which is not being exploited to its full potential in Wales and it is here where vast opportunities lie.

"These projects are developed by members of the community or local businesses coming together to form an energy consortium or cooperative. Everyone makes an investment in the technology and subsequently take a share of the benefits. This includes saving money

on electricity bills as energy is being generated renewably and making money by selling surplus power to the National Grid.

The Welsh Assembly Government has set high targets in a drive towards a low carbon economy, aiming to generate twice as much energy by renewable methods by 2025 than it does today. It is imperative to help meet these targets that more community and business collaborative schemes are encouraged across Wales. We want to stimulate the passion and drive for people to consider the opportunities that are out there."

Wales has already seen a number of examples of renewable energy projects formed by a cooperative between local communities and businesses, but "these are the exception rather than the norm".

Roadworks report

PONTYPRIDD STREET, junction with Mount Pleasant – ongoing footway restrictions in place. Holton Road, Barry, pedestrianised area – road closure.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THIS week's first prize winner Tredegar and it's another rollover!

● £2,000: 124580.
● £10: 560537, 386916, 489092, 166025, 437637, 793295, 676278, 718742, 548052, 423642, 200127, 386340, 673356, 206581, 170078, 159990, 312875, 686335, 773361, 980265.
● £5: 861087, 341967, 269709, 966615, 479693, 858870, 597464, 743905, 643383, 509099, 400085, 786734, 344982, 119653, 165874, 681917, 576538, 248552, 428441, 567014, 636620, 201738, 656923, 547088, 434123,

192140, 179814, 609613, 438218, 657427, 294207, 664675, 869088, 369604, 868858, 706888, 666899, 520992, 442454, 266225, 342527, 289972, 605185, 413357, 683982, 573365, 788721, 984070, 352358, 551112, 848996, 842591, 455141, 266885, 663272, 558228, 550890, 360452, 162855, 125548.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

Council is to investigate Romilly Road flytipping

RESIDENTS who live in Romilly Road, woke up earlier this week to see that their local environment had just been invaded by fly-tippers – but the Vale Council vows to track the perpetrators down.

A local resident who saw the abandoned bed, mattress, divan and assorted rubbish, commented: "I am appalled

that lazy, thoughtless individuals can spoil a nice area like Romilly Road by these stupid actions, particularly when there are already perfectly adequate systems in place for disposal of household goods."

Clifford Parish, the council's operational manager for waste management and cleansing, said that what had happened was not only anti-social, but a significant crime that would be fully investigated.

Vale People First petition local AM

ALL Wales People First is currently developing a manifesto and Vale People First Members went to the offices of Jane Hutt AM in Barry to discuss what issues they would like addressed by the Welsh Assembly and other government bodies.

Afterwards, the Vale AM commented: "It was great to meet Vale People First Members to hear about their interests and concerns. Community Safety was a key issue and we discussed how we could tackle this. The free bus passes for disabled people and their companions are very popular."

"Considering the nature of the waste illegally deposited on Romilly Road, it is all the more frustrating that it should be dumped in this manner, given that this type of household waste is accepted at the council's two household waste recycling centres at Sully and Llandow, which is free of charge to all residents," he stated.

"Where anyone has committed fly-tipping they are liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months, or a fine not exceeding £50,000, or both.

"For more serious fly-



ABOVE: Spoiling a nice area – Romilly Road falls victim to anti-social flytippers.

Crown Court can send those guilty to prison for up to five years or fine them up to £50,000, or both.

"The courts can also make the offender pay all of the council's costs in taking enforcement action, including the seizure of all vehicles used to commit the offence."

He warned: "It is also an offence for a householder to allow their waste to be removed without checking that the

VALE councillor, Rob Curtis, has arrived back home in Barry from a trip to the frozen islands of Svalbard, in the high Arctic 600 miles from the North Pole.

He had gone there to study the marine wildlife and natural history of the Arctic, but while in Spitsbergen visited the Svalbard Global Seed Vault outside the old mining town of Longyearbyen.

Coun Curtis explained: "The seed vault is built 145 metres into the side of a mountain, from reinforced concrete and is clear of any conceivable sea level rises.

Svalbard is one of the most northerly islands in the world and is usually only inhabited by polar bears.



Coun Curtis is pictured outside the entrance to the seed vault.

"Anyone seeking access to the seeds, will have to pass through four locked doors.

"The seed vault has the capacity to store 4.5 million seed samples, more than the total number of crop varieties in existence.

"Each sample contains an average of 500 seeds, so a maximum of 2.25 billion seeds will be stored in the vault," he said.

Coun Curtis, who represents Gibbonsdown

ward on the Vale Council, continued: "I knew the strange concrete bunker sticking out of the rock and ice had a very special story to tell.

"This seed bank is the world's ultimate insurance policy.

"If a climate disaster takes place or disease wipes out many of our plant species, this facility will become mankind's last hope," said Coun Curtis, who stressed that he had funded the trip himself.

Teams in fun contest for Ty Hafan

THIRTY teams from companies and organisations across south Wales converged on the Vale Hotel on August 15 for a fun competition – in the first 'Ty Hafan It's a Knockout Challenge'. MoD St Athan entered three teams in a bid to

take the title. "Having been introduced to games such as the Wedge, Bungee Mat and the Squeezies, and fighting their way through tubes of foam, all the teams were determined to give it their all," a spokeswoman reported.

A closely fought battle

resulted in a final four teams – comprising 'The

Chocolate Teapots' (RBS Insurance), 'The Rofling Kembo's' (MoD St Athan), The Mo-Fo's (Beddau) and one of the three Dow Corning teams from Barry, but the Rofling Kembo's eventually came out on top, to be hailed as the first ever winners of the 'It's a Knockout Challenge Cup.'



Anthony Jolly (MoD St Athan) in action on the Wedge.

hrt

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Athletic Youth in a west country rugby warm-up

B R I D G E N D
Athletic Youth travelled to Bristol for this pre-season friendly and were fortunate enough to avoid the horrendous weather that curtailed most of the South Wales sports fixtures on Saturday.

The Athletic kicked off and exerted early pressure but the Clevedon defence stood firm. Early season rustiness was showing with a number of passes going to ground, but the stalemate was broken when

BRIDGEND ATHLETIC YOUTH CLEVEDON YOUTH

60
0

captain Rhodri Apsee took a quick tap penalty and forced his way over from five yards for the first try, converted by John Phillips.

Clevedon responded with their backs having several good individual runs but it was the Athletic who had the killer touch when winger Luke Morgan crossed for a try after some great passing. Phillips converted to give the Athletic a 14-0 lead at the end of the first of three periods.

Both sides made a

number of changes in the second period and, in a repeat of the first score, flanker Curtis Williams forced his way over in the corner for an unconverted try.

Clevedon then pressed the Athletic defence, using their monstrous tight head prop on several powerful charges but the Athletic tackling was sound.

Under pressure, fly half Scott Jones put in a lovely kick over the Clevedon defence for full back Mike Powell to follow up, gather the kick bounce and sprint the remaining 50 yards to score under the posts. Phillips converted.

Powell followed this up with another shortly afterwards, converted by Phillips to give the Athletic a healthy 33-0 lead at the end of the second period.

The next score was a brilliant effort, when some great passing among backs and for-

wards resulted in John Phillips scoring in the corner but he failed to convert his fine effort.

Clevedon's resistance was lessening now and from the kick off, Rhodri Apsee caught the ball close to the touchline and showed a fine turn of pace to make 30 yards before passing to second row Ryan Williams, who raced the remaining 30 yards for a great score. The conversion failed.

The Athletic were rampant now and from the kick off, number eight Sean Derrick finished off another stunning move with Mike Powell prominent.

The conversion was declared.

Two further tries by Luke Morgan and Sean Derrick capped off a great afternoon for the Athletic, who now look forward to defending their title at the Kenfig Hill Sevens on Bank Holiday Monday.

PR

Scorpions threaten to spoil party

Hunslet Hawks	32
South Wales Scorpions	24

SOUTH WALES S C O R P I O N S almost ruined the party for champions Hunslet Hawks by threatening to win at the John Charles Centre for Sport on Sunday.

They lost 32-24 in the end, which means a trip to Rochdale Hornets in the first round of the play-offs, but it wasn't without a fight.

Hunslet gave a good performance, going 24-0 up, but an Elliot Kear try for the Scorpions just before the interval rocked them and the Welshmen came back in the second half to take a bonus point off the champions.

Coach Anthony Seibold was proud of his players: "We could have won that game. We had another chance to score at the death which would have made it 32-30 and then who knows?"

"I'm really proud of the players. To only lose 32-24 after being 24-0 down on 39 minutes is a credit to them. They stuck to the task and it would have been really easy to throw in the white flag on a day like today when Hunslet were getting presented with their trophy."

Scorpions were awarded a penalty at kick-off and almost scored the opening try, but when they got the ball, Hunslet got going.

Dave Clayton scored in the fourth minute after excellent work from Luke Haigh, Stuart Kain and George Rayner. David March converted.

It was soon 12-0 as a slick move from Hunslet

resulted in Wayne McHugh running under the sticks, with March easily adding the extras.

Skipping Steve Dooler went over for Hunslet's third try on 25 minutes, with March's kick making the score 18-0, while the fourth try was scored on the half-hour as Scott Woodcock went under the sticks from short range; March converted again.

Scorpions finally got on the board just before the interval when Kear dived over in the corner, and Aled James did well to convert from the touchline.

Steve Parry then dived in for his 18th try of the season, which James converted, then James was judged to have been pushed into touch when setting up a possible second for Parry, denying a further score.

Hunslet got back on the board when March easily converted a penalty, but it was a brief respite from the Scorpions' scoring.

Five minutes later, Kear's kick was picked up by Andrew Gay, who strolled in underneath the posts for a well-worked try which Murphy converted.

The home side worked their way upfield, with James Houston scoring after a well-worked move.

March goaled to make the score 32-18.

But Scorpions earned a well-deserved bonus point as Lewis Mills went over from short range and Murphy converted.

It was soon 12-0 as a slick move from Hunslet

Tim reaches half-century

ON AND OFF THE TURF
with Brian Lee

A BERTHIN National Hunt trainer

Tim Vaughan saddled his 50th winner of the season when his three-year-old chesnut gelding Architrave, ridden by Richard Johnson, came home a 15-length winner of the Tiddington Juvenile Hurdle at Stratford last Thursday.

A former inmate of Sir Mark Prescott's yard, Architrave is owned by Pearn's Pharmacies Ltd and looks a very promising prospect.

Tim, who has also trained five flat race winners this season, cel-

ebrated that 50th success by winning the very next race – the Betfair Handicap Chase – with *Grand Lahou*, a French-bred seven-year-old, owned by Oceans Racing, who easily accounted for the Evan Williams' trained *Nourbourne Bandit*.

At Fontwell's evening meeting, Williams was successful with his six-year-old *Courella* who, partnered by stable jockey Paul Moloney, defied top weight of 11st 12lb to land the Pepsi Pursuit Novices' Handicap Chase.

Please send your views/news to Brian Lee at the address lebreran@btinternet.com or phone him on 02920736.

All Stars crumble

CROISSANTS underlined their authority in the Bridgend Six-a-side Premier Division, preserving a perfect record in emphatic fashion with a 15-0 mauling of The Allstars, James King was the stand out performer.

B Attack are doing their best to keep pace, comfortably recording maximum points with a 2-0 win over Hangover

Heroes.

Persil Boys enhanced their lead at the top of the first division as Ryan Rogers pulled the strings in a commanding 4-1 win over Team Extreme, taking full advantage of nearest rivals Dead End Jabs But Football Gods' 3-2 reverse at the hands of Hardly Athletic.

Anyone who wants to join the Six-a-side football leagues in Bridgend can visit www.leisure-leagues.net

PONY CLUB TEAM'S VICTORY



THE Talygarn Pony Club Centre team won the Centre Equitation Competition at Derby, competing against 23 teams from all over the country.
Pictured above is the winning team: Chloe Reakes (19) Treforest (also individual section winner); Molly Groves (12) Llanharry; Zoe Morgan (12) Pontyclun; Sarah Blake (16) Church Village (also individual section winner).

Bridgend air rifle league get ready for new season

THE Bridgend and District Air Rifle League held its presentation night recently at Kenfig Hill RFC with an excellent turnout

Many of the members received trophies, with the results spread right across the league.

With some excellent shooting and some very close matches along the way, Ewenny Eagles

won the W Phillips League and the Major Stockwood League, Ffordd-y-Gyfraith took the Singer League and Tondu Cricket Club won the J Perring League.

The top individual shot and league champion was John Lyons of the Ewenny Eagles team, with 11 possible scores out of 18 matches.

John, a past winner of the Martyn Daley Cup.

The top lady was Cherry Lyons of the Ewenny Hawks retained the trophy from last season with an excellent average of more than 33, receiving the Sandra Saunders Cup.

The top junior was Ben Jones of the Ewenny Eagles. Ben retained this trophy from last season.

Special Mention must go to the Mike Griffiths of the St Brides Team on recording an absolute maximum score of 35.7.

This means he had all seven pellets through a 3/8" hole without clipping the sides. From a free standing position under match conditions, this score has only been achieved five times in the history of the League (100 years +).

It has now been done six times. Previous members who have achieved this score are: Adrian Howe (twice) Terry Monaghan (twice) and Melanie Griffiths, which proves the ladies can compete on equal terms with the men. Well done all.

The Bridgend and District league season is about to start in early September with six teams, all based within a

15-mile radius of Bridgend town centre. Two of the clubs, Ewenny Eagles and Ewenny Hawks are based in the Golden Lion in Aberkenfig.

Two teams, Ffordd-y-Gyfraith and Porthcawl,

are based in Kenfig Hill RFC, St Brides are based in the Fox & Hounds in St Brides, and Tondu CC at Tondu cricket club.

The individual clubs are always looking for new members and the League itself for new teams.

To start a new team would require the use of a room around 10 x 5 metres, which can be closed off from the general public, and around 14 members, which would allow for shift work, sickness etc.

Anyone interested should contact Jim Watkins (president 01656 745037), or Caroline Little (secretary 01656 741637).

The Bridgend and District Air Rifle League meet on a Monday and Thursday nights throughout the winter months. Some practice nights are held through the summer. The League starts on the first Monday/Thursday in September and finishes around the end of April.

There are strict safety rules in being which must be adhered to. The League prides itself in never having an accident relating to personal injury.

The League has trophies for teams, seniors, ladies and juniors. It is one of the few sports where a female competitor can compete on equal terms with a male.

With regards to juniors, all league shooting is done from a free standing position. Because of the weight of the rifles, this normally restricts the juniors to around the age of 12, although this does depend on the individual's strength.

There are handicap competitions where all members compete on level terms. The maximum number of com-

petitors to shoot in one match would be 10-a-side in a league match. This is also a League for six-a-side, the average league match starts at 8pm and would finish around 10.30pm.

The shooting is from a free standing position without the use of slings or any other artificial support, over a range of 21 feet. Members of opposing teams take turns to shoot at a five inch white metal plate housed in a metal box.

The target plate is engraved with circles and painted with a white oil paint which stays wet throughout the competition. After each shot, the pellet impression is painted out so the next competitor has a clean target.

In the centre of the plate there is a 3/8inch diameter hole with a bell behind, if a pellet or part of the pellet travels through the hole the bell will ring. Each competitor has eight shots in a match, one sighter and seven to count.

BRIDGEN & DISTRICT AIR RIFLE LEAGUE WINNERS

2009/10 SEASON

W Phillips League

Winners, Ewenny

Eagles; W Phillips

League rns/up,

Ffordd-y-gyfraith;

Wooden Spoon,

Porthcawl; Stockwood

League Winners,

Ewenny Eagles;

Stockwood League

Rns/up, Ffordd-y-gyfraith;

Wooden Fork, St Brides;

J Perring League

Winners, Tondu CC; J

Perring League Rns/Up,

St Brides; Wooden

Knife, Porthcawl.

Singer league winners,

Ffordd-y-gyfraith; Singer

league rns/up, Ewenny

Eagles; Highest league

average, J Lyons (EAG)

34.78; Highest league

average rns/up, M

Griffiths (STB) 34.61;

Highest ladies average

winner, *C. Lyons

(HWK) 33.39; Highest

ladies league average

rns/up, *K. Jones (EAG)

32.55; Highest senior

average over 55, B

Richards (EAG) 34.47; Highest league average 34.5 and up, B. Richards (EAG) 34.47; Highest league average 33.5/34.4999, J. Lyons (EAG) 34.78; Highest league average

32.5/33.4999, M. Griffiths (STB) 34.61; Highest league average under-32.5, R. Brunsdon (PCL) 34.04; Highest league average junior (under-18), BA Jones (EAG) 33.19.

Most league possibles, J. Lyons (EAG) 11; Most overall possibles, J. Lyons (EAG) 16; Most league 5.1s, A. Roberts (TCC) 34.

'A' Cup winner, N. Monk (FYG); 'A' Cup rns/up, A. Roberts (TCC); 'B' Cup winner, D. Jenkins (FYG); 'B' Cup rns/up, C. Greenslade (HWK); 'C' cup winner, R. Hill (TCC); 'C' cup rns/up, J. Griffiths (STB); 'D' cup rns/up, L. Thomas (STB); Christopher Wool Cup, B. Jones (EAG); Ray Lewis Cup winner, Mike Griffiths (STB); Ray Lewis Cup rns/up, A. Roberts (TCC); Robert Thomas Cup winner, N. Monk (FYG); Robert Thomas Cup rns/up, M. Griffiths (STB); WM Pairs winners, N. Monk/MB Smith (FYG); WM Pairs rns/up, B. Richards/B. Jones (EAG).

Bertorelli Pairs winners, N. Monk/MB Smith (FYG); Bertorelli Pairs rns/up, B. Richards/B. Jones (EAG); Handicap Pairs winners, J. Watkins/G. Battick (FYG); Handicap Pairs rns/up, J. King/C. King (PCL).

Edgar Williams Fours winners,

Ffordd-y-gyfraith 'A';

Edgar Williams Fours rns/up, Tondu CC (1); S. Simmonds Cup winners, Ffordd-y-gyfraith; J. E. Williams Cup winners, Ewenny Eagles; Nigel Phillips Cup, Ffordd-y-gyfraith; York Hotel Cup

winner, Tondu CC; Beha Cup, Porthcawl; Committee Cup winner, K. Jones (EAG).

Maximum Score 35.7 Shield, Mike Griffiths (STB).

BRYN HAFREN'S A-LEVELS IMPROVE ON LAST YEAR'S RECORD-BREAKING RESULTS

PICTURES by IAN DIXON

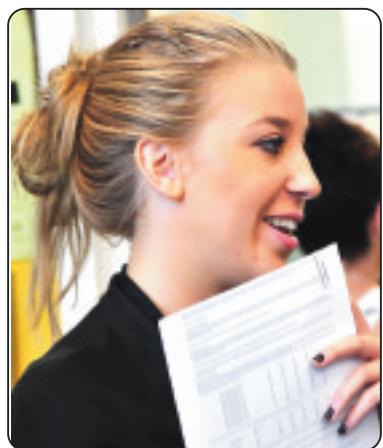
THE headteacher at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School, Mr Phil Whitcombe, said he was "delighted" with the A-level results for 2010.

This year's results were an improvement on last years record-breaking return.

However, Mr Whitcombe said he was concerned at the number of hard-working pupils who would have difficulties achieving further education goals given the huge pressure for university places.



SMILES (AND ONE OR TWO THOUGHTFUL EXPRESSIONS) AS THE A-LEVEL STUDENTS OPEN THEIR ENVELOPES AT BRYN HAFREN COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL...



Samantha will walk Barry beat

POLICE community support officer Samantha Dance has been appointed as the new PCSO for the Illyd ward in Barry.

She will work with neighbourhood beat manager PC Ceri Western and will be seen regularly walking the beat throughout the ward.

PCSO Dance said: "I am very pleased to be joining the team at Illyd and look forward to meeting local residents and business people, as well as visiting all the schools



ABOVE: PCSO Samantha Dance when the new school year begins in September."

Responder teams offer cardiac courses in Vale

VALE Responder teams, in conjunction with Heartstart, will be providing free lifesaving training courses across the county over the next few months.

Courses are planned for venues in Rhosneigr (Celtic Way Community Hall on Saturday, September 11 from 12pm-6pm) and St Athan (St Athan Community hall on Saturday, September 18 from 10am-6pm).

Courses are approximately two hours long and will run throughout the day.

The aim of the course is to help preserve life in cardiac arrest situations by providing effective CPR (Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation) and to show what to do in other life-threatening conditions such as choking. Spaces will be limited,

Cancer charity benefits from Mayor's raffle



ABOVE:
The Mayor of Barry, Karl Kuhnell, supported the Ride for Life event organised by Bon Marche staff in Cardiff. It was run in conjunction with Macmillan nurses, and the mayor helped to raise £400 for Macmillan Cancer Care by selling raffle tickets.

£1,500 donation for Ty Hafan



Terry Jones (ECA) and Jeff Davies, Ambassador for Ty Hafan.

THE Cardiff and Newport branch of the Electrical Contractors' Association (ECA) has handed over £1,500 to Ty Hafan.

Lorraine Rees of Ty Hafan said: "Once again, members of the ECA have shown their support for Ty Hafan through this magnificent donation."

"On behalf of the children, young people and families who use our services, I would like to thank them sincerely for their valued support."



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Family Notices**LEGG Cynthia
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David and family wish to express their sincere gratitude to relatives, friends and neighbours for all support given to them during their recent bereavement.

Many thanks for cards, letters and telephone calls received during this sad time.

Thanks also to Reverend Peter Leonard for conducting such a wonderful service.

Public Notice

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
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ACT 2004

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This application and associated plans are available for public inspection between 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU.

Any person wishing to object to the grant of this approval should write to the above address giving reasons for their objection within 21 days of the date of publication of this notice.

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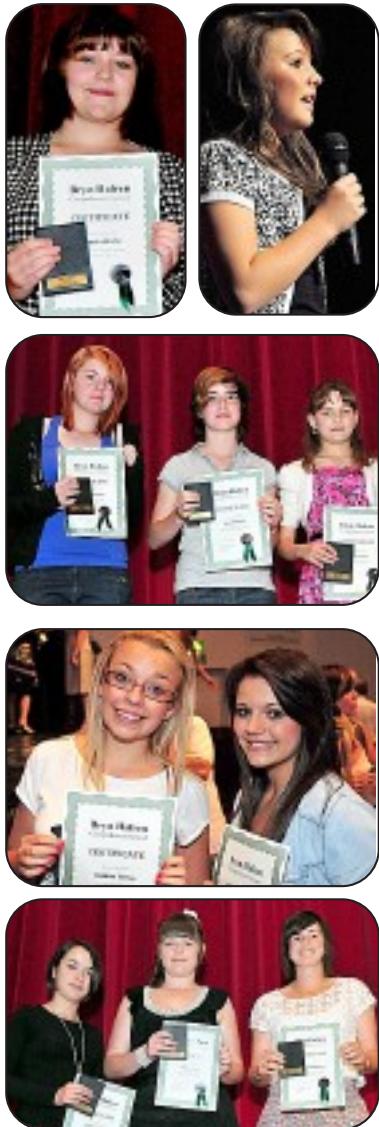
BRYN HAFREN COMPREHENSIVE CELEBRATES ANOTHER YEAR WITH PRIZEGIVING EVENING

AS the summer holidays approached Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School held its annual presentation evening.

It was an opportunity for the headteacher Mr Phil Whitcombe and his staff to recognise the notable achievements of pupils in the 2009-2010 year.

Ian Dixon's record of the school's A-level day is on page 30.

PHOTOGRAPHS by IAN DIXON



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BRYNHILL GOLF CLUB ROUND-UP**New champions at Brynhill Golf Club – for both the ladies' section and the men!**

Club championship final, left to right: Sam Preston (caddie), Richard Bond, club president Peter Hayman, club captain and match referee John Kirkpatrick, Wayne Adams and caddie Craig Adams.



Earnest Williams final, caddie Phil Edwards, Richey Jones, referee Sheila Williams, Darryl Hewitson and his caddie Colin Lewis.

FINALS day at Brynhill Golf Club dawned with rain, but the sun made quite a few appearances and nobody got too wet.

Other than the prestigious club championship, won in the past by current tour professionals Stephen Dodd and Kyron Sullivan, which is played over 36 holes, all the finals are played over 18 holes.

Wayne Adams, newly-arrived from Dinas Powis Golf Club, is the new club champion having beaten Richard Bond, and Darryl Hewitson beat Richard Jones on the last hole to claim the Ernest Williams Cup.

The George Williams Cup was won by Peter Davis, beating Peter Incledon and The Howell Hughes Cup, was presented to Carl Williams, who overcame Nick Harkin.

The Chief Buck Rabbit (for higher handicaps) for 2010 is Simon Bowsher, who defeated Stuart Simpson.

RIGHT: Richard Bond from tee.

Photographs by
CAMERON SWEENEY.



Howell Hughes Cup, caddie Mike Harkin, Nick Harkin, referee and club vice-captain Steve Jones, Kevin Williams (caddie) and Carl Williams.



THE ladies championship final, played over 36 holes, was between last year's runner-up, Helene Cook, and new member Caroline Morris-Hills.

Despite the heavy drizzle, there was a good turnout of spectators who enjoyed the high quality of golf.

On the first four holes, the ladies recorded two pars and two birdies, with Caroline going to the 10th three up.

Helene fought back to win the 11th, halve the 12th and won the 13th and 15th, but two birdies by Caroline on the 14th and 17th meant she went in for lunch two up.

In the afternoon, the number of spectators significantly increased and everyone was pleased when the weather dramatically improved.

Caroline again came out and immediately produced quality golf, winning the 19th, 20th and 22nd holes to go five up.

Despite a brave attempt by Helene in halving five holes, Caroline saw out the match by 8 and 7. Brynhill had a new ladies champion!

Men's captain John Kirkpatrick, who followed the morning's proceedings, was joined in the buggy in the after-



Diack champion Robbie Lee.



Championship runner-up: Helene Cook with lady captain.



Diack runner-up Julie Harkin.



Ladies champion 2010 Caroline Morris-Hills.



Crystal Cup finalists left to right: Winner, Margaret Codd, runner-up, Chris Jones.

Margaret went on to acknowledge the produce some solid golf, achievements of the finalists.

Julie pulled one back on the 12th but despite a great drive on the 13th, her second shot ended up in the bunker and Robbie seized the moment to go on and win by 5 and 3.

The

Crystal Cup

final

(handicaps over 30)

was played a few days

before the championship

final,

and was between

Margaret Codd and Chris

Jones.

The

match

was

closely

contested

on

the

front

nine

– Margaret,

going

two up at one point, but

Chris

fought

back and by

the

10th

the

match

was

all

square.

The

championship

dinner

was

held

later

in

the

evening

at

the

club-

house

and

was

very well

supported

by

the

lady

members,

keen

to

JP

Pair take the prizes

THE winners of Brynhill member and guest competition on Sunday, August 15, with 46 points, were Chris Sims and his guest Joffrey Williams.

They are pictured being presented with their prizes by club captain John Kirkpatrick.

Weather stops play, again!

ALL Cadoxton's competitive games are over, so friendly matches will be played for the remainder of the season.

The first of those was a home game against Barry Central, with five rinks in competition.

Unfortunately, the weather curtailed the game after about 12 ends with Cadoxton holding an advantage of 56-45.

Cadoxton v Bridgwater – Friendly

ON Saturday, the annual fixture with Bridgwater was continued, with a coach trip for the away match.

The outcome was a win on four of the six rinks, but a defeat on the aggregate score.

As always, the after-match proceedings were enjoyed by all, with Bridgwater's version of comedian Jethro fronting the affair.

Don Kuhnell skipped his rink to the top score, with guest Ceri Rossiter playing a major part in the result, both on and off the field, which included a fine rendition of 'Calon Lan' and a number of

Howard Craven's rink also had success, although a 17-6 lead was reduced in the closing stages to four shots.

Two other rinks skipped by Graham Brown and Roy Harding both had narrow victories.

John Stewart's rink never managed to get in front with their defeat; while the other loss was skipped by Gerrie Currie, another guest playing in an unaccustomed position.

Thanks were given to all the guests for filling the vacancies, to make the day such a success.

Scores: B Knight, M Curtin, V Messer (Guest), R Harding – 18-17; C Rossiter (Guest), R Doble, L Cundliffe, D Kuhnell – 24-17; G Solomon, G Davies, B Davies (Guest), G Brown – 18-17; B Curtis (Guest), P Ellis, H Hellyar, H Craven – 18-14; G Powell, R Cole, W Vaughan, J Stewart – 11-23; S Clarke, Richard (Guest), J Sugden, G Currie (Guest) – 13-28. Final score: 102-116.

DH

Club XV prove to be quick learners!

CLUB XV from the Bridgend area entered their first tournament with a group of talented youngsters, who had never played beach touch rugby.

They didn't know what to expect, but on their arrival they found out their first match was against the defending champions Evolution.

However, the Club XV team went through five tries to one, and continued that way, winning all their games in the group, only to lose to the eventual winners, the Welsh Warriors, one try to nil in the semi-final.

This was a great achievement for the boys, as there were teams such as a select team also there.

LEFT: The Club XV team, who took part in their beach touch rugby tournament.



LEFT:
Darcey Ramsden who won the under-10 girls' singles with Rob Walbyoff, coach, and Nan Thomas, a club vice-president.

Dinas juniors enjoy tennis tournament

WITH wonderful weather, the juniors enjoyed a great week of tennis and competition during their annual tournament in the last week of July.

Organised to a high standard by the club coach, Rob Walbyoff, and his helpers, Tom and Gareth, the week ran smoothly and ended on a high note on finals day on Saturday.

Becky Arcos and Adam Roberts, the junior captains, together with Dana Yee and Alex Vowles, the vice-captains, worked tirelessly to run the tuck shop and help with table tennis, as well as with the competitions for the younger players.

In the kitchen, a cheerful band of helpers provided lots of food and drink throughout the day. Well done to everyone!

In particular, the club wants to note the success of Dana Yee, who won the under-15 and under-18 singles and then competed in the 'Road to Wimbledon' competition and was invited to play in Wimbledon.

The junior players achieved a very high standard of play and showed excellent behaviour on and off court. This year, it was gratifying to see an increased number of girls taking part in the tournament which bodes well for the club in future years.

Alex Vowles was presented with the Bater Shield for his wonderful progress this year and his play in the tournament. He has had considerable success in local tournaments as well as playing well in the club's senior teams.

Katie Collins was presented with the Jean Williams Cup in recognition of her contribution to the junior section this year and her significant tennis progress. She has been a regular member of the ladies fourth team this season, and should progress still further next year.

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Examples: **bridgestone**
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185/70R14 Avon ZVS **£49.95** **£98** **£190**

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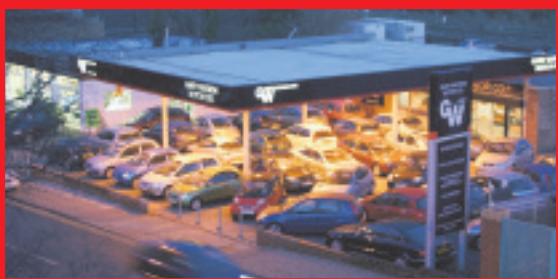
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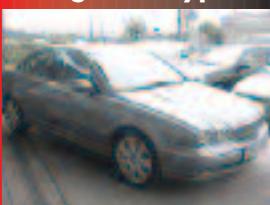
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05	ALFA Romeo 147 1.6 Lusso 3-dr.	In met-blue, 56,000 miles.	£3,995
02	PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Convertible.	Electric blue, 59,000 miles, host of extras	REDUCED BY £700 TO £3,995
04	ALFA ROMEO 156 1.8 Twin Spark Lusso.	Monza green met, 86,000 miles	REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,495

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09	FORD Focus 1.6 Style 5-dr.	Under manufacturers warranty, in black with sports pack, 19,000 miles	£8,995
09	SKODA Fabia TDI2 1.4 5-dr.	6,400 miles, alloys, air con, makers warranty, £30 road tax, silver	£8,995
59	FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 5-dr (new shape)	met silver, 2,200 miles.	£8,995
59	FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style 5-dr (new shape)	met blue, 500 miles only, as new.	£8,995
07	VW Golf 1.9TDi 5-dr.	In silver, 45,000 miles, looks and drives superb	£8,995
57	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 HDi S 3-dr.	In red, 32,000 miles, £30 a year road tax.	£6,995
07	RENAULT Scenic 1.6 VVTi Dynamic.	In met grey, low mileage, 1 owner example at	£6,495
07	RENAULT Clio 1.5 DCi (86) Dynamic 3-dr.	In met grey, 31,000 miles, £30 road tax	£6,495
56	VAUXHALL Zafira 1.9 CDTI 120 Club 7 seater.	Black, economical people carrier REDUCED BY £500 TO £6,495	£6,495
04	MINI One in chilli red, 50,000 miles.	Local car with a/c, alloys, etc	£6,495
04	VW Golf 1.6 FSi SE 5-dr.	Met-blue, 41,000 miles, 1 owner, 6-speed, alloys	REDUCED BY £700 TO £6,295
57	RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique 5-Dr.	In satin gold, 35,000 miles with A/C etc.	£5,995
07	CITROEN C4 1.6 Cool 3-dr.	In silver, 37,000 miles with a/c	£5,995
06	RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 Dynamique.	Silver, 46,000 miles, 7 seater	REDUCED BY £1000 TO £5,995
56	TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 LX 3-dr.	In silver, 21,000 miles, very sought-after model at	REDUCED BY £300 TO £5,995
56	FORD Focus 1.6LX Estate.	Black, 20,146 miles, 1 owner, outstanding value	£5,995
56	FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Zetec 5-dr.	In silver, 65,000 mile diesel hatch	£5,995
04	VW Beetle 1.9 TDi.	In light met blue, 80,000 miles with air con	£5,995
54	AUDI A2 1.4 SE.	In silver, 63,000 miles, great looking example	£5,995
06	FORD Fiesta 1.4 Ghia 5-Dr.	Ice blue met, full cream leather trim, 27,000 miles.	REDUCED BY £300 TO £5,695
05	FORD Focus 1.6 Ghia 5-dr.	In silver, 37,000 miles, usual Ghia refinement.	REDUCED BY £500 TO £5,495
54	FORD Focus C Max 1.6 TDI.	Magnum grey, 36,000 miles	REDUCED BY £300 TO £5,495
06	FORD Focus 1.4LX 5-dr.	In met silver, 44,000 miles with a/c, etc.	£5,695
07	RENAULT Clio 12 Expression 3-dr.	Steel blue, 33,000 miles with a/c, c/d	REDUCED BY £1,000 TO £4,995
56	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 5-dr.	In satin silver, 40,000 miles, 1 owner example at	£4,995
06	VAUXHALL Meriva 1.4 Life	In silver, 40,000 miles with CD, A/C etc.	£4,995
55	CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi SX 5-dr.	In met burgundy, £30 per year road tax.	£4,995
06	SMART Four Two City 700 Passion Automatic.	Silver, 34,000 miles	£4,795
06	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Verve 5-dr.	In electric blue, great looking car at	REDUCED BY £300 TO £4,695
55	FORD Fiesta 1.6 Style Climate 3-dr.	Silver, 47,000 miles with alloys, CD etc.	REDUCED BY £700 TO £3,995
57	CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.6 SX Estate.	In met blue, a/c, alloys, roof rails, fantastic value at.	£4,495
05	FORD Mondeo Zetec TDCi.	Tonic blue, 2 owners, very economical family car	£4,495
55	PEUGEOT 206 1.4 Sport 3-dr.	In silver, 41,000 miles, air con, alloys etc	REDUCED BY £500 TO £3,995
54	FORD Focus 1.8 Edge 3-dr.	In met-black, 41,000 miles, a/c, alloys etc.	REDUCED BY £300 TO £3,995
06	MITSUBISHI Colt 1.2 C2i 3-dr.	Light met-blue, 1 owner, CD, e/w, c/l	REDUCED BY £500 TO £3,495
05	FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 5-dr.	In radiant red with charcoal trim, 45,000 miles, alloys, cd, e/w, c/l	£3,995
54	SMART Forfour 1.3 Pulse	In met grey and met black, 59,000 miles, electric sunroof	£3,995
06	CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 Sport 3-dr.	Black, with black leather, 37,000 miles	REDUCED BY £1,000 TO £3,695
05	CHEVROLET Tacuma 1.6 SX.	Silver, 44,500 miles, excellent value family car	REDUCED BY £400 TO £3,695
55	CHEVROLET Kalos 1.4 SXI 3-dr.	In black, 39,000 miles, fantastic value at	REDUCED BY £200 TO £3,495
06	FORD Ka 1.3 Style.	In met-blue, 30,000 miles, low insurance and running costs at	£3,495
06	FORD Ka Collection.	In met-black, 56,000 miles, 1 private owner	£3,495
04	RENAULT Laguna Dynamique 1.8 Estate.	Ful panoramic roof, silver, tremendous value	£3,495
05	FORD Ka Style.	In silver, 39,000 miles with cd, etc	£3,395
54	VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Life.	In spearmint metallic, 55,000 miles, CD, E/W etc.	£3,295
53	FORD Street KA.	In met silver, 61,000 miles, fantastic value convertible at.	£3,295
53	RENAULT Scenic 1.9 Diesel Expression.	In silver, 67,000 miles, versatile people carrier at	£3,295
03	SMART City Pulse 700 Auto	In lime and black, low mileage example	REDUCED BY £300 TO £2,995
53	FORD Ka 1.3i In blue,	48,000 miles, 1 local owner	REDUCED BY £500 TO £2,495

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GEM sport

Maesteg Lions make Stroke Games an 'inspirational' event



ABOVE: Competitors from Bridgend county borough with their medals.

THE Lions Club of Maesteg has been praised for helping stroke survivors in Bridgend county borough in their rehabilitation.

Karyl Carter from the Stroke Association explained: "Since 2007, at the invitation of Maesteg Lions, a small party from The Stroke Association's Bridgend community groups has attended the Lions Disabled Games in Swindon.

"It is a very long day

for those taking part. The first pick up on our mini-bus is 6.45am! However, it is worth it because when we arrive we are fed with bacon and sausage sandwiches.

"I'm quite sure some only go for the food! The Lions really look after us."

She continued: "Our service users take part in a variety of events, including shot putt, discuss, javelin, 60m walk, 60m run, 400m run, the open bowls competition and even welly throwing!"

"This year, more than 230 competitors took part. Every competitor is entered according to their 'profile', and the profiles are set by a legislative body for disabled events.

"For example, there are profiles for those with ambulatory problems (e.g. stroke), visually impaired (again stroke), wheelchair users (again stroke), learning disability and so on.

"At 1pm, everything stops for lunch, which again is provided by the Lions. They also ensure

a ready supply of bottled water is available for us. They also pay for the mini-bus hire, so there is no cost to The Stroke Association whatsoever.

"In 2009, we came away with 32 medals, 14 of which were gold. This year we won 45 medals, 28 of which were gold!

"Our oldest competitor was 81 years. His wife was told he wouldn't make 80! At his next hospital appointment, he will be taking along a photograph showing all the medals he won.

"We have always had tremendous support from the Maesteg Lions and we owe them a very big thank you for their support. The Lions Disabled Games is an inspirational event."

AN 18-year-old Bryntirion Comprehensive School. David Guest is off to Delhi to represent Wales in the Commonwealth Games.

David Guest, who will compete in the decathlon, started in athletics by competing in cross country at

**LEFT:
David Guest is off to Delhi to represent Wales in the Commonwealth Games.**

**Bryntirion
Comprehensive
School.**

However, he soon discovered he had the makings of an 'all-rounder' – and that was probably genetic, as his father, Mike Guest, had competed for the RAF in hurdles and decathlon.

David is coached by his dad in all disciplines apart from the

pole vault, where his coach is Scott Simpson.

The decathlon is an event where athletes traditionally hit their peak from the age of 25 upwards, but David has already made people sit up and take notice.

His career highlight so far is competing for Great Britain against France in an under-20

heptathlon where he won the competition, beating the World Youth Champion and breaking the UK record.

His victory also moved him to number nine on the world all-time junior heptathlon list.

His personal best, a total of 7,330 points, was recorded in September 2009.

Blue Bulls charge into final after the Cardiff Demons are exorcised!

BRIDGEND Blue Bulls stormed into the Co-operative Welsh Rugby League Conference Grand Final after an emphatic 56–4 victory over Cardiff Demons.

CARDIFF had the best of the first 20 minutes and did everything but score, putting the Blue Bulls backline under intense pressure.

Then, Bridgend took the lead with their first real attack when Shaun Owens ran over for a try which was converted by Gareth Howells, and that lead was doubled when Karl Hocking forced his way through to make the score 10–0.

Connor McDonald

Bridgend Blue Bulls	56
Cardiff Demons	4

scored straight from kick-off, with Howells converting again, and then a Tylan Mafi try in the corner made the score 22–0 soon after.

Howells then went through for his first try but failed to convert, and Bridgend were 26–0 up at half-time.

It was soon 32–0 straight after the interval when Howells went over and converted, before getting a hat-trick to make it 36–0.

Cardiff finally got over the line when James Thatcher fed Maltese international Paul Bartlett to go over,

but Bridgend restored the balance when Alan Pope, who is also contracted to South Wales Scorpions intercepted to score under the sticks.

McDonald went over for two more tries to complete his hat-trick, Matt Hutchings added another, as well as converting three times himself to complete the impressive rout.

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'Spirited' Pencoed miss first team regulars

THIS was a very spirited performance from a young Pencoed side without skipper Aeron Halse, and first XV regulars Gareth Prentice, Geoff Hobbs, Glen Hiscocks, and Aaron Songhurst against the National League Division 1 newcomers Gilfach Goch.

The bigger home forwards were on top in the early scrums, with Pencoed doing well not to concede points following a series of scrummages close to their try line.

Pencoed then countered through full back Tom Cross with a kick and chase into the Gilfach 22, and from the resultant scrum, young No.8 Rhys Pope used the blindside to set up a chance. Unfortunately, the ball went to ground a few metres out.

With the home side

returning to the attack young Pencoed flanker Liam Evans showed his defensive qualities with a solid tackle on the Gilfach 12 coming on the crash ball.

Evans was again prominent in defence within the minute.

Outside half Marc Davies then put Pencoed down to the Gilfach try line with a superb 60 metre kick, but Pencoed were unable to capitalise on their position.

Again, things looked promising for Pencoed with a well timed offload from centre Stein Jones, however the final inside pass went astray. Gilfach then opened the scoring in the final minute of the first period of 30 minutes with a catch and drive score.

At the start of the second 30 minute period young Pencoed hooker Aaron Payne did well to get back to his own try line, before putting in a

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